

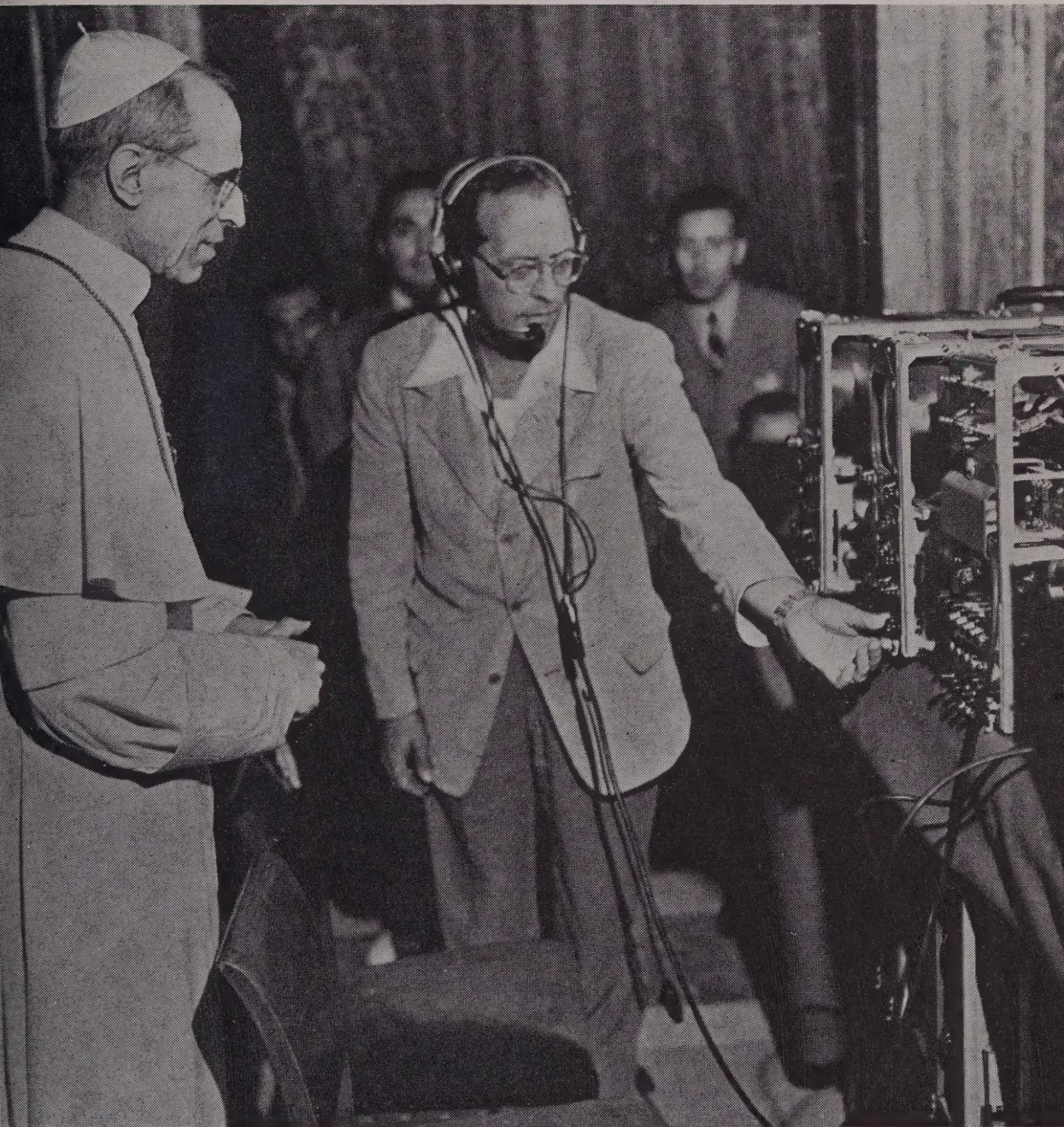
NBC digest



APRIL 1948

VOL. 2 NO. 3

LITERATURE OF THE SPOKEN WORD



PUBLIC AFFAIRS • DISCUSSION • COMMENT • DRAMA • HUMOR

25
CENTS



The suicide of Jan Masaryk, Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia, on March 10th was a tragic commentary on the coercion of that nation into the dictatorship of Russia. Above are Mr. Masaryk (left) and Eudard Benes, President of Czechoslovakia. For the story as it was told over the NBC network, turn to page 28. (Photograph by Press Association, Inc.)

THE PICTURE ON THE FRONT COVER:

Television mysteries were explained to Pope Pius XII by Joe Jenkins of RCA when His Holiness watched and heard the Vatican Choir by means of RCA television equipment. A forerunner of the day when we shall see as well as hear events overseas the very instant they occur.

NBC digest

VOLUME 2

APRIL 1948

NUMBER 3

CONTENTS

	PAGE
"WE MUST BE PREPARED TO PAY THE PRICE FOR PEACE"	
<i>Harry S. Truman</i>	3
LIVING—1948	
<i>Lou Hazam</i>	9
THE NEED FOR UNDERSTANDING ATOMIC ENERGY	
<i>David E. Lilienthal</i>	21
THE TRAGIC DEATH OF THE REPUBLIC OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA"	
<i>A Symposium</i>	28
THE SCHOOL TEACHER AND THE AMERICAN WAY	
<i>Harvey S. Firestone, Jr.</i>	38
CRISIS IN GREAT BRITAIN	
<i>Leon Pearson</i>	40
THE DEATH OF GANDHI	
<i>A Symposium</i>	45
THE UNITED STATES OF INDONESIA	
<i>Queen Wilhelmina</i>	49
WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT HEART DISEASE	
<i>University of Chicago Round Table</i>	51
KING SOLOMON AND THE BEE	
<i>Pauline Morris</i>	58

NBC digest

HORTON H. HEATH, *Editor*

•

Editorial Advisory Board

Anita Barnard • Sterling Fisher • Miriam Hoffmeir • Irene Kuh
Francis McCall • Richard McDonagh • James McLean • William E. Web

ETHEL B. SMOAK, *Circulation Manager*

Published quarterly in New York, N. Y., by National Broadcasting Company, Inc.
Price, 25 cents in United States and Canada; 50 cents for one year's subscription,
for two years' subscription. Copyright 1948 by National Broadcasting Company, Inc.



NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC.

A SERVICE OF RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA

NILES TRAMMELL, *President*

LEWIS MACCONNACH, *Secretary*

R. J. TEICHNER, *Treasurer*

30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, New York • Merchandise Mart
Chicago 54, Illinois • Sunset Boulevard and Vine Street, Hollywood 2
California • 14th Street and New York Avenue, Washington 5, D. C.
• 1625 California St., Denver 2, Colorado • 815 Superior Avenue, N.E.
Cleveland 14, Ohio • Taylor & O'Farrell Sts., San Francisco 2, California

“We must be prepared to pay the price for peace”

HARRY S. TRUMAN

I AM HERE today to report to you on the critical nature of the situation in Europe, and to recommend action for your consideration.

Rapid changes are taking place in Europe which affect our foreign policy and our national security. There is an increasing threat to nations which are striving to maintain a form of government which grants freedom to its citizens.

The United States is deeply concerned with the survival of freedom in these nations. It is of vital importance that we act now, in order to preserve the conditions under which we can achieve lasting peace based on freedom and justice.

The achievement of such a peace has been the great goal of this nation.

Almost three years have elapsed since the end of the greatest of all wars, but peace and stability have

not returned to the world. We were well aware that the end of the fighting would not automatically settle the problems arising out of the war. The establishment of peace after the fighting is over has always been a difficult task. Even if all the allies of World War II were united in their desire to establish a just and honorable peace there would still be great difficulties in the way of achieving that peace.

But the situation in the world today is not primarily the result of the natural difficulties which follow a great war. It is chiefly due to the fact that one nation has not only refused to cooperate in the establishment of a just and honorable peace but — even worse — has actually sought to prevent it.

The Congress is familiar with the course of events.

You know of the sincere and patient attempts of the democratic nations to find a secure basis for peace through negotiation and agreement. Conference after conference has been held in different parts of the world. We have tried to settle the questions arising out of the war on a basis which would permit the establishment of a just peace. You know the obstacles we

This address by the President before a joint session of Congress on March 17, 1948, was broadcast over the NBC coast-to-coast radio network. At the same time, the President was seen and heard by large television audiences in eastern cities.

have encountered. But the record stands as a monument to the good faith and integrity of the democratic nations of the world. The agreements we did obtain, imperfect though they were, could have furnished the basis for a just peace — if they had been kept.

But they were not kept.

They have been persistently ignored and violated by one nation.

The Congress is also familiar with the developments concerning the United Nations. Most of the world have joined together in the United Nations in an attempt to build world order based on law and not on force. Most of the members of the United Nations earnestly and honestly seek to make it stronger and more effective.

One nation, however, has persistently obstructed the work of the United Nations by constant abuse of the veto. That nation has vetoed twenty-one proposals for action in a little over two years.

But that is not all. Since the close of hostilities the Soviet Union and its agents have destroyed the independence and democratic character of a whole series of nations in eastern and central Europe.

It is this ruthless course of action, and the clear design to extend it to the remaining free nations of Europe, that have brought about the critical situation in Europe today.

The tragic death of the republic of Czechoslovakia has sent a shock throughout the civilized world. Now pressure is being brought to bear on Finland, to the hazard of

the entire Scandinavian peninsula. Greece is under direct military attack from rebels actively supported by her Communist-dominated neighbors. In Italy a determined and aggressive effort is being made by a Communist minority to take control of that country. The methods vary but the pattern is all too clear.

FACED with this growing menace, there have been encouraging signs that the free nations of Europe are drawing closer together for their economic well-being and for their common defense of their liberties.

In the economic field the movement for mutual self-help to restore conditions essential to the preservation of free institutions is well under way. In Paris the sixteen nations which are co-operating in the European Recovery Program are meeting again to establish a joint organization to work for the economic restoration of western Europe.

The United States has strongly supported the efforts of these nations to repair the devastation of war and to restore a sound world economy. In presenting this program to the Congress last December, I emphasized the necessity for speedy action. Every event in Europe since that day has underlined the great urgency for the prompt adoption of this measure.

The Soviet Union and its satellites were invited to co-operate in the European Recovery Program.

They rejected that invitation. More than that, they have declared their violent hostility to the program and are aggressively attempting to wreck it.

They see in it a major obstacle to their design to subjugate the free community of Europe. They do not want the United States to help Europe. They do not even want the sixteen cooperating countries to help themselves.

While economic recovery in Europe is essential, measures for economic rehabilitation alone are not enough. The free nations of Europe realize that economic recovery, if it is to succeed, must be afforded some measure of protection against internal and external aggression. At the very moment I am addressing you, five nations* of the European community, in Brussels, are signing a fifty-year agreement for economic cooperation and common defense against aggression.

This action has great significance, for this agreement was not imposed by decree of a more powerful neighbor. It was the free choice of independent governments representing the will of their people, and acting within the terms of the charter of the United Nations.

Its significance goes far beyond the actual terms of the agreement itself. It is a notable step in the direction of unity in Europe for the protection and preservation of our civilization. This development

* Great Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.—Ed.

deserves our full support. And I am confident that the United States will, by appropriate means, extend to the free nations the support which the situation requires. I am sure that the determination of the free countries of Europe to protect themselves will be matched by an equal determination on our part to help them to protect themselves.

The recent developments in Europe present this nation with fundamental issues of vital importance.

I believe that we have reached a point at which the position of the United States should be made unmistakably clear.

The principles and purposes expressed in the charter of the United Nations continue to represent our hope for the eventual establishment of the rule of law in international affairs. The charter constitutes the basic expression of the code of international ethics to which this country is dedicated. We cannot, however, close our eyes to the harsh fact that through obstruction and even defiance on the part of one nation, this great dream has not yet become a full reality.

It is necessary, therefore, that we take additional measures to supplement the work of the United Nations and to support its aims. There are times in world history when it is far wiser to act than to hesitate. There is some risk involved in action — there always is. But there is far more risk in failure to act.

If we act wisely now, we shall strengthen the powerful forces for freedom, justice and peace which

are represented by the United Nations and the free nations of the world.

I regard it as my duty, therefore, to recommend to the Congress those measures which, in my judgment, are best calculated to give support to the free and democratic nations of Europe and to improve the solid foundation of our own national strength.

FIRST, I recommend that the Congress speedily complete its action on the European Recovery Program. That program is the foundation of our policy of assistance to the free nations of Europe. Prompt passage of that program is the most telling contribution we can now make toward peace.

The decisive action which the Senate has taken, without regard to partisan political considerations, is a striking example of the effective working of democracy.

Time is now of critical importance. I am encouraged by the information which has come to me concerning the plans for expeditious action by the House of Representatives. I hope that no single day will be needlessly lost.

Second, I recommend prompt enactment of universal training legislation.

Until the free nations of Europe have regained their strength, and so long as Communism threatens the very existence of democracy, the United States must remain strong enough to support those

countries of Europe which are threatened with Communist control and police-state rule.

I believe that we have learned the importance of maintaining military strength as a means of preventing war. We have found that a sound military system is necessary in time of peace if we are to remain at peace. Aggressors in the past, relying on our apparent lack of military force, have unwisely precipitated war. Although they have been led to destruction by their misconception of our strength, we have paid a terrible price for our unpreparedness.

Universal training is the only feasible means by which the civilian components of our armed forces can be built up to the strength required if we are to be prepared for emergencies. Our ability to mobilize large numbers of trained men in time of emergency can forestall future conflict and, together with other measures of national policy, can restore stability to the world.

The adoption of universal training by the United States at this time will be unmistakable evidence to all the world of our determination to back the will to peace with strength for peace. I am convinced that the decision of the American people, expressed through the Congress, to adopt universal training will be of first importance in giving courage to every free government in the world.

Third, I recommend the temporary re-enactment of selective service legislation in order to maintain

Our armed forces at their strength authorized.

Our armed forces lack the necessary men to maintain their authorized strength. They have been unable to maintain their authorized strength through voluntary enlistments, even though such strength has been reduced to the very minimum necessary to meet our obligations abroad and is far below the minimum which should always be available in the continental United States.

We cannot meet our international responsibilities unless we maintain our armed forces. It is of vital importance, for example, that we keep our occupation forces in Germany until the peace is secure in Europe.

There is no conflict between requirements of selective service for the regular forces and universal training for the reserve components. Selective service is necessary until the solid foundation of universal training can be established. Selective service can then be terminated and the regular forces then maintained on a voluntary basis. The recommendations I have made represent the most urgent steps toward securing the peace and preventing war.

We must be ready to take every wise and necessary step to carry out this great purpose. This will require assistance to other nations. It will require an adequate and balanced military strength. We must be prepared to pay the price for

peace, or assuredly we shall pay the price of war.

WE IN THE United States remain determined to seek, by every possible means, a just and honorable basis for the settlement of international issues. We shall continue to give our strong allegiance to the United Nations as the principal means for international security based on law, not on force. We shall remain ready and anxious to join with all nations—I repeat, with all nations—in every possible effort to reach international understanding and agreement.

The door has never been closed, nor will it ever be closed, to the Soviet Union or to any other nation which genuinely cooperates in preserving the peace.

The time has come when free men and women of the world must face the threat to their liberty squarely and courageously.

The United States has a tremendous responsibility to act according to the measure of our power for good in the world. We have learned that we must earn the peace we seek just as we earned the victory in the war, not by wishful thinking but by realistic effort.

At no time in our history has unity among our people been so vital as it is at the present time.

Unity of purpose, unity of effort and unity of spirit are essential to accomplish the task before us.

Each of us here in this chamber today has a special responsibility. The world situation is too critical,

and the responsibilities of this country are too vast, to permit any party struggle to weaken our influence for maintaining the peace.

The American people have the right to assume that political considerations will not affect our work-

ing together. They have the right to assume that we will join hands, wholeheartedly and without reservation, in our efforts to preserve the peace in the world.

With God's help we shall succeed.

"We would have aided the world without the threat of Communism; we will aid the world despite the disapproval of the Communists."

—PROFESSOR T. V. SMITH on a
University of Chicago Round
Table program

Jerusalem—Shrine of Three Faiths

"Jerusalem is a shrine not of one faith but of three faiths. For Christians, Jerusalem is the city identified with the last days of Jesus. Within the old walled city is the Mount of Olives. Also there is the Garden of Gethsemane. Both of these hallowed places are revered by Christians the world over. For Jews, Jerusalem is the historic symbol of their homeland, the capital of the first Jewish kingdom. For Mohammedans, Jerusalem is the site of the Mosque of Omar, a shrine built over the rock which Moslems revere as that from which Mohammed ascended into heaven.

"Within the city is the Tomb of Christ in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where clergy and Christian pilgrims from afar kneel before the stone on which the body of Christ was anointed after the crucifixion. Six miles away in Bethlehem is the Grotto of the Manger. Of interest to Jews is the fact that within the city there is the Wailing Wall, remnant of the Second Temple, destroyed by Titus the Roman Commander in 70 A.D. The Wailing Wall is the goal of Jewish pilgrims from the ends of the earth. Of interest to Moslems is the fact that devotees of Mohammedanism sojourn in Jerusalem to worship in the Mosque of Omar, or as it is sometimes called, the Dome of the Rock."

—DR. WALTER W. VAN KIRK, "Religion in the News"

Living—1948

LOU HAZAM

This was the inaugural program of an important new documentary series which went on the air over the NBC network on February 29, 1948. Each Sunday afternoon, with the collaboration of Dr. George Gallup, Director of the American Institute of Public Opinion, the program explores significant phases of life in America today. The narrator is Ben Grauer.

- HOOTSAYER: (BIG; ECHO) Beware the Ides of March!
(MUSIC: MATERIALIZES OUT OF THIS WARNING TO BUILD AND HANG OMINOUSLY FOR:)
- VOICE: It is written in Plutarch: When that day had come and Caesar was on his way to the Senate-house, he greeted the seer with a jest and said: "Well, the Ides of March are come," and the seer said to him softly: "Aye, they are come, but they are not gone!"
- HOOTSAYER: (ECHO; AS BEFORE) Beware the Ides of March!
(MUSIC: UP AND OUT)
- NARRATOR: Greetings, America!
As they came upon Caesar,
The Ides of March
Will soon be upon us.
What is their portent?
What do they bode
Of the shape of things to come?
We invite you to join us
As we search for the answer
In the course of events
And the temper of the people.
Listen . . .
(MUSIC: STACCATO, CRASHES IN AND FADES FOR:)
- OFFICER: (QUIETLY) Ready, gentlemen?
- ALL: (AD LIB INDISTINCT RESPONSE IN THE BACKGROUND.)
- VOICE: Yes, they're ready. Army officers, physicists, experts of the Northrup Company — here at Murdock Airbase in the California desert. The sun is beating down upon 2000 feet of single track stretching before us into the sandy wastes.

Mounted at one end is something best described as a rocket-like sled. In a moment, someone will push a button, and speeding down that yonder track will go — whatever it is. These men know that the length of time it takes the sled to reach the other end is important. Get ready to count the seconds with me.

OFFICER:

Let 'er go.

(THE DEAFENING NOISE OF ROCKETS EQUAL TO FOUR PLANE ENGINES, BRIEF SILENCE, THEN DISTANT SOUND OF THE SLED CAREENING IN THE DESERT, ALL UNDER:)

VOICE:

(OVER SOUND) One . . . two . . .

OFFICER:

(ANNOUNCING QUIETLY) Two seconds, gentlemen. The sled reached a speed of one thousand nineteen miles an hour.

(MUSIC: A TERRIFIC ACCENT, THEN INTO PROGRESS THEME)

NARRATOR:

One thousand nineteen miles an hour —

In the year of our Lord 1948!

Sign of our times?

To pass the sonic barrier reached at 759 miles per hour

Is *more* than a sign of our times —

It is the sign of times to come!

Times that make modern man shudder at the potentialities

As he grips firmer a globe already

Seemingly compressed by man-managed speeds

Into the size of a golf ball.

One thousand nineteen miles an hour

Is the period at the end of the much-quoted sentence —

PHILOSOPHER:

One world or none.

NARRATOR:

— In a world fast dividing into two.

(SOUND: GAVEL)

The gavel you hear

Is pounding the dais

At the bar of the conscience of the world —

The United Nations at Lake Success —

Where many believe lies the last hope

For unanimity.

VOICE:

(SPEAKING RUSSIAN — HOLD AS BACKGROUND BEHIND)

VOICE I:

Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet delegate, has completed a long lecture before the U.N. disarmament commission on the

"reduction of *armaments*." The translator is turning Mr.
 Gromyko's Russian into English —
 (RUSSIAN COMES UP AND FADES AGAIN)
 VOICE: The Union of Socialist Soviet Republics calls upon the na-
 TRANSLATOR: tions for peace by a reduction of *arguments* — Oh . . . er . . .
 I mean — *armaments*.
 (GENERAL LAUGHTER)
 (MUSIC: LAUGHS TOO)
 NARRATOR: Even Russia laughed
 At the substitution of the word
 Arguments for armaments.
 What do we read in this sign?
 Only that there is a *language* curtain
 As well as an *iron* curtain
 That separates men today.
 And with the world rapidly shrinking,
 We need more than translators
 If we are truly to understand each other.
 (MUSIC: PROGRESS THEME CONTINUES AND
 FADES UNDER)
 Where else will we find signs of the times
 Abroad among men?
 The pathetic post-war misery
 Visited upon Europe, for instance —
 VOICE: Scene: A school in Nuremburg, Germany. The teacher
 TEACHER: speaks to her ten-year-old wards . . .
 Tomorrow, I wish that you should bring to class an essay
 I have every year asked of my children — an essay entitled
 "The Most Beautiful Day in My Life." Think hard, boys
 and girls . . . and write me of the most beautiful day in
 your life.
 VOICE: Tomorrow . . .
 SCHOOLGIRL: (ABOUT TEN: READING) The most beautiful day of
 my life was February 17, 1947, when my brother died and
 I inherited his shoes and woolen underwear.
 SILENCE, THEN
 (MUSIC: A TOUCH OF THE PROGRESS THEME
 TO FADE)
 NARRATOR: To meet the crying need for help,
 To add America's pulling strength
 To the bootstraps of Europe,
 Mr. Marshall —
 Secretary of State Marshall, that is —

Climbed the witness stand of Congress
 And laid a plan on the line —
 MARSHALL: Either undertake to meet the requirements of the program
 or don't undertake it at all.
 VOICE: Thank you very much for your testimony, Mr. Secretary.
 NARRATOR: While governments weigh their fate in the balance,
 While forums debate the issue,
 While the press prints —
 And radios fill homes with —
 News of the Marshall Plan,
 Some experts take a poll of the public and discover —
 MAN: The Marshall Plan? What's that?
 NARRATOR: Thirty-six percent of the people —
 More than one out of every three Americans —
 Have never heard or read
 Of the plan that may very well determine
 The course of their lives!
 (*MUSIC: IN AND UP TO CURTAIN THE SEQUENCE*)
 NARRATOR: But let us now turn from the world —
 Which to some seems too much with us —
 And look at the facts
 Which largely reveal ourselves — America.
 What are the signs of our times
 Reflected in the national mirror?
 SENATOR: (*STORMING*) Why, my fellow Senators, I tell you it's
 pre-posterous!
 VOICE: Scene: The Senate of the United States. A Senator from the
 midwest has risen and — figuratively, of course — is waving
 his underwear aloft as a signal flag of the high cost of living,
 1948 . . .
 SENATOR: Do my colleagues realize what I am forced to pay for a
 union suit today? Two dollars and fifty-nine cents — here
 in the nation's capitol! Why, back home I used to be able
 to buy a one-piece union suit for only forty-nine cents!
 (*MUSIC: A PATRIOTIC BOW TO THE SENATOR AND DOWN FOR:*)
 NARRATOR: Hard on the heels of the specter of inflation —
 That worries not only the good Senator
 But all manner of men —
 Reporters flush a middle western housewife
 On a two-week "fast"
 Protesting the high prices. . . .

1ST REPORTER: Do you mind telling us what you had to eat today, madam?

WOMAN: For my Sunday dinner today I ate three slices of bread and drank a glass of milk?

2ND REPORTER: Do you really think you'll bring down prices doing this?

WOMAN: Gandhi got action by fasting, didn't he? Anyway, I'm saving money.

NARRATOR: Prices, however, comprise only one aspect
Of the local world we live in.
The housing situation reflects another . . .

MOTHER: (*FILTER*) Am I talking to the White House?

OPERATOR: Yes, this is the White House.

MOTHER: I'd like to speak to the President.

OPERATOR: Er . . . May I have your name, please?

MOTHER: (*FADING*) My name is . . .

VOICE: (*OVER HER FADE*) The woman's name doesn't matter.
She is a New England mother. This is the story she is phoning the President . . .

MOTHER: (*STILL FILTER*) I've been evicted from my home, and been looking for a place for five months. I have absolutely no place to go. No landlord will take us in because of my five children. If necessary, I'll take them down to the town hall to sleep. And if that doesn't work, we'll camp on the White House lawn!
(*MUSIC: ACCENT*)

NARRATOR: Signs of our times —
As has been true since the first fig-leaf —
Are also found in the way we dress.
Milady's look,
Which has been christened "new,"
Yet boasts the petticoats, ruffles, camisoles and corselets
Of the nineties,
Says this about us —
According to a Budapest-born Hollywood designer —

DESIGNER: The female sex is universally retreating toward a great
(WOMAN) maternal image of the past. Clothes are sex symbols. Our mothers and grandmothers seem to have held the key to successful marriage and motherhood far better than we. So, like little girls, we are dressing up in their clothes and pretending to be our own maternal forbears.
(*MUSIC: A TOUCH OF "MOTHER OF MINE" AND MELT FOR:*)

NARRATOR: But at the other end of the continent
Another leading woman —

More interested in the result of the New Look
 Than the philosophy —
 Urges the Advertising Women of New York . . .

WOMAN: Let the New Look of today be the forgotten look of tomorrow. It shows everything you want to hide and hides everything you want to show.
 (*MUSIC: ACCENT AND UNDER*)

NARRATOR: Elsewhere on the national scene
 Other tokens clamor for the limelight.
 In Manhattan's Bronx —
 Famous for its cheer —
 A principle is involved
 In the eternal battle between the sexes.

COUNCILMAN: (*SLIGHT ECHO*) And so I submit this bill calling for a law to ban drinking at bars by unescorted women.

WOMAN: Mr. Chairman! Mr. Chairman!

VOICE: (*SOTTO VOICE*) That, of course, is a female councilmember demanding the floor, determined to fight for the rights of all womankind. The chair recognizes her . . .

WOMAN: (*SHOUTING ANGRILY*) If it is proposed that bars are immoral and women should not be in them, then there should be no bars at all! If it is suggested that women are more prone to the evils of liquor, I deny that emphatically. And if it is suggested that the protection of man is necessary to make a woman behave (*WITH GREAT SCORN*) that's beyond my comprehension!
 (*MUSIC: EMPHATIC ACCENT AND MELT UNDER*)

NARRATOR: But the customs and habits of modern Americans
 Are scarcely reflected in "drinking" alone —
 (*ASIDE*) Though we spend more on this pastime
 Than education.
 We are great espousers of culture,
 And signs of our times
 Can be found in what we consume through the eye
 As well . . .

VOICE: (*FILTER; BREATHLESSLY*) When he took her in his arms — who was she?

NARRATOR: Literature, for instance,
 That is often advertised to us
 Like this . . .

VOICE: Could it be Madeline's soul which had returned to inhabit Silky's body, to drive her from her husband to the arms of the fascinating Del Palma, Madeline's former great love?

Out of this startling situation grows one of the tensest, most
passionate romances you have ever read —
(*QUICK CASH DRAWER AND BELL*)
Two dollars and seventy-five cents.
(*MUSIC: WHIP UP AND DOWN TO BUILD TO A
CLIMAX UNDER:*)

NARRATOR: Indeed, the signs are motley and myriad
Many to all appearance defying analysis.
In the continuing struggle
Between labor and management
A new wrinkle —
Strikers padlock customers
Inside a restaurant on Times Square . . .
While the problem of Civil Rights for all
Is dumped in the lap of a reluctant Congress,
One Southern state opens its university to all races,
And one refuses to do so . . .
New phrases like —
“Cold War”

A VOICE:

NARRATOR:

Grip America . . .
The President rocks the nation
By asking for a front porch on the White House
On which to rock himself . . .
A modern Noah builds a new ark
Outside of city limits
To await a second flood . . .
The vice-president of a Planned Parenthood Clinic
Gives birth to triplets . . .
Astronomers mount a 200-inch telescope in California
To discover if the universe is exploding . . .
And out in Hollywood, Greer Garson,
Attended by publicity agents and photographers,
Climbs into a bathtub
And awaits the signal to take
A soon-to-be-featured bubblebath!
Voices . . . Lights . . . Camera . . . Sound! —
Scrub, Miss Garson, Scrub!
(*BUBBLES — SOUND EFFECT*)
(*MUSIC: A TOUCH OF “I’M FOREVER BLOWING
BUBBLES,” TO FADE FOR:*)

NARRATOR:

It is to this America
That a refugee,

Orphaned by Nazi savagery,
Comes eagerly and full of hope . . .

REFUGEE: (ABOUT 20; FRENCH) I want to walk all over everywhere in New York and eat oranges and have a long black dress and study. I want to feel the snow and smell the snow and skate and sleep a month. I want never to stand in queues against — please . . .
(MUSIC: COMES SOFTLY OUT OF THIS TO MELT UNDER)

NARRATOR: But how much hope, many ask,
Is there anywhere in the world,
As they consider the atomic Sword of Democles
Hanging over it and them,
And listen to the published doubt
Of a famous Nobel-honored atomic physicist . . .

PHYSICIST: (MUSING) Other animals have died out in the past. I do not see why *we* should be any exception — and perhaps now is the time.
(MUSIC: EMERGES AND DOWN AGAIN)

NARRATOR: You know, it's not easy
To take the pulse of a democracy,
For, as James Bryce put it fifty years ago . . .

BRYCE: Such is the din of voices, that it is hard to tell which cry prevails, which is swelled by many, which by only a few throats. The organs of opinion are as numerous as the people themselves.

NARRATOR: What are you thinking out there,
You 140-some million question marks?
What are you feeling, believing, deciding
In the midst of living, 1948?
Is there any way at all to really know
What the collective YOU thinks?

GALLUP: Sure.

NARRATOR: (TAKEN UNAWARES) I . . . I beg your pardon?

GALLUP: I say, of course there's a way to find out what they think.

NARRATOR: How?

GALLUP: Ask. Ask them.
(MUSIC: AN EFFECT TO INTRODUCE)

VOICE: (SOTTO VOICE) And that answer — like so many answers to questions that puzzle us today — came from George Gallup, Director of the American Institute of Public Opinion, responsible for what you know as the Gallup Poll.

(MUSIC: REVERSE THE EFFECT TO BRING US BACK TO:)

- NARRATOR: Come in, Dr. Gallup. . . . Do you really believe you can tell us what the people are thinking, feeling, believing, deciding?
- GALLUP: Through the use of modern polling methods, yes! And accurately.
- NARRATOR: And you've never missed?
- GALLUP: Never.
- NARRATOR: *(ECHOING GILBERT & SULLIVAN)* What, never?
- GALLUP: Well, hardly ever!
- NARRATOR: But if you've been sampling the sentiment of the people all along, here, aren't you discouraged, taking lots of aspirin, tossing feverishly at night?
- GALLUP: Not at all. You see, it's this way. The world may seem to be mad and there is a lot of uncertainty — you've just been proving it. But below the surface there's something else, too. Stability. A sort of basic tranquility — in the people.
- NARRATOR: Are you suggesting that we be optimistic about living in 1948?
- GALLUP: Suppose we match that question with another.
- NARRATOR: Yes . . . *(CLEARS HIS THROAT SIGNIFICANTLY)* . . . Dr. Gallup.
- GALLUP: Who's happy and who isn't? And why? In other words, let's look at Living 1948 in terms of the third of those three inalienable rights.
- NARRATOR: Life, liberty — and — the pursuit of happiness.
- GALLUP: Exactly. And what do you suppose we find?
- NARRATOR: Then you've already done a survey on happiness?
- GALLUP: Yes, and one of the strangest ever made. Because we asked not just one or two questions, but more than fifty. Personal questions, dealing with the lives and problems of men and women.
- NARRATOR: Could you tell us some of them?
- GALLUP: Of course. For example . . .
(MUSIC: SETS THEM UP)
- VOICE: Are you getting what you want out of life?
- VOICE 2: How about your job? Like it?
- VOICE 3: Are you happy with your family?
- VOICE: Do you like living in this town?
- VOICE 2: Are you happier than your dad and mother were?
- VOICE 3: Does your spiritual luggage include a lot of things you've always wanted to do and never got to do?
(MUSIC: TIES IT OFF)

GALLUP: Those are just a few of the questions, but I think you get the idea. We asked them all . . . of fishermen in their snug New England cottages . . . of sharecroppers on their plots in Arkansas . . . of auto workers in Detroit. Of housewives, clerks, riveters, big executives and small businessmen. Scrub-women and hat check girls in night clubs. In short, of America.

NARRATOR: And what did America say?
(MUSIC)

GUY: I can't kick!

GIRL: Happy? Why . . . why, sure I'm happy.

WOMAN: Well, I know I wouldn't trade places with anyone else.

FARMER: Now that you ask me — yes.

VOICE: I'm happy.

VOICE 2: (FAINTER) I'm happy.

VOICE 3: (FAINTER) I'm happy.
(MUSIC)

NARRATOR: And now that I think of it, Dr. Gallup, I think I'd join that chorus myself.

GALLUP: Then you'd be helping to swell a chorus that's a mighty one, because the vast majority of Americans say that, on the whole, their lot is happy, indeed. Only one American in ten will tell you, in effect —

VOICE: (DEEP BASS) I'm feelin' mighty low!

NARRATOR: (LAUGHS)

GALLUP: In general, religious people are happier than non-religious. The closer you live to nature the better your chances for contentment.

NARRATOR: Farmer over townsman. Townsman over city dweller.

GALLUP: That's right. And an odd fact is that people who live in sight of mountains are happier than the plainsman or prairie farmer. Makes you think of that line in the Bible: "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help."

NARRATOR: And, of course, the poets have always compared the mountains to temples. But to descend from the sublime in a hurry, Dr. Gallup, what about money? Is there any relationship between happiness and the old pocketbook?

GALLUP: Not necessarily. Money certainly isn't the key. Above a certain minimum, it doesn't seem to make much difference. But we do know there's a direct connection between happiness and politics.

The French Gallup poll made that discovery for us. In

France — and contrast this, now, with the temper of the American people — in France, two-fifths of the people are unhappy. And most of these unhappy ones are Communists. Aha! And the moral?

NARRATOR:

GALLUP: Isn't it obvious? With some things, happiness won't mix or should I say, with some things, Communism won't mix?

NARRATOR: But what about our spirit of free enterprise? I've heard some people say it's dead.

GALLUP: Tell them to listen to this young man. Our figures tell us his is the voice of most young men in America today . . .

YOUNG MAN: Listen! This is still a free country, isn't it? Sure it's still possible to build up a fortune like Henry Ford's. All you got to have is what it takes!

GALLUP: And what about this . . .

POLLSTER: If you could have a choice, would you prefer to own your own business and assume all the risks, or would you rather work for someone else and let him take the risks?

YOUNG MAN: Brother, give me my own business any day! A little restaurant maybe. A hot-dog stand or something like that. I'll worry about the risks!

NARRATOR: Then, Dr. Gallup, you don't think we're losing our initiative . . . our faith in the future of America?

GALLUP: Certainly not. One poll showed that the fathers of this country think their sons have a better opportunity to get ahead than they did when they were young.

NARRATOR: Well, Dr. Gallup, I'd say you're a man who believes in the people.

GALLUP: Yes I do. The most heartening thing about them is their common sense. It's the strength that pounds
(*MUSIC: SNEAK IN AND CARRY BEHIND*)

through the bloodstream of this nation! In poll after poll we've found that when the people are given the facts they turn up with sensible conclusions about what ought to be done. The people do not go off on crazy tangents. You can put your faith in the citizens of Main Street. The people are sound. They don't make headlines but they make history! But remember, good decisions can only come from the people and Democracy can only flourish when they're reasonably well-informed about the issues at hand. It was George Washington who first observed this — Washington who first said . . .

(*MUSIC: OUT*)

WASHINGTON: The mass of citizens of these United States mean well, and I firmly believe they will always act well, whenever they can obtain a right understanding of matters.

GALLUP: Fill that gap. Give Americans the right understanding of matters, and I for one will go along any day with Carl Sandburg when he said . . .

POET: The people — yes!
(MUSIC: UP RESOUNDINGLY)

RED SKELTON: Hey, did you know I bought an Eisenhower car?

ROD O'CONNOR: What kind?

RED SKELTON: An Eisenhower. It won't run.

— RED SKELTON SHOW

BITTERSWEET

"I am a housewife and like to listen to the radio as I work. Unfortunately there is very little that is worthwhile and entertaining. The serial dramas in my opinion are extremely boring and a waste of good time. I think you underestimate the general intelligence of women in giving us an endless diet of such awful stuff. How about more music, poetry, discussion programs interesting to women on health, voting, etc.?"

—NBC listener in Glen Burnie, Md.

"We love to listen to many radio stories. For myself I love the serial dramas in the afternoon and early evening, and think what they mean to blind people who cannot go out to see the people of the theatre. Only people with shallow hearts and minds find it hard to love and appreciate these fine actors and fine actresses. They all play their parts so real and so true to life."

—NBC listener in Jersey City, N. J.

"Referring to your spot broadcasts drumming into the ears of listeners the urgent need for avoidance of race, color, creed and religious prejudice, it would seem your station can be used to better purposes and I request you discontinue such announcements."

—NBC listener in Jackson Heights, N. Y.

"I entirely agree with your various 'shorts' regarding race tolerance. It is the only solution."

—NBC listener in New York City

The Need for Understanding Atomic Energy

DAVID E. LILIENTHAL

PEOPLE are the most important fact about atomic energy. What goes on in people's minds — and in their hearts — is even more important in determining the fateful future than what goes on in atomic energy laboratories and vast production centers.

The theme of what I shall say to you is this: The people must know — the people as a whole must come to understand — the essentials of this new world into the outer reaches of which science has brought us so suddenly.

We must not, we dare not, enter upon this new era of human life if the very facts that set our time off from any that preceded it are, in their essentials, not widely known. For men generally to be in the dark as to the nature of the fundamental structure and forces of the atom — and of the evil and the great good this knowledge can bring — would be for us to live in a world in which we are, in elementary knowledge,

quite blind and unseeing. It would be almost as if we did not know that fire is hot, that water is wet; as if we did not know there are seasons and gravity and magnetism and electricity.

I am persuaded that the people are increasingly determined to find out, to learn about these things. Some of the obstructions in their path are being exposed as myths. For example, the widely circulated piece of nonsense that atomic science in its entirety is a military secret is about exploded. The well-cultivated fiction that atomic energy is a bomb and nothing else, that it has no humanitarian and practical uses — this too is being understood for what it is, a bit of pure moonshine. The myth that the essentials are too technical, are “over people's heads,” is giving way to the truth.

The mischievous notion that people are such utter dopes that they are not and cannot be made interested in the atom — though every cell of their bodies and everything they eat and touch is made up of atoms — this notion does persist, but it is taking a beating in those communities where the people are setting out to find out about what makes the physical world tick.

This talk by the Chairman of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission was delivered before the Radio Executives Club in New York on February 5, 1948, and broadcast by Station WNBC.

THE energy within the atom has been released and put to use. This event, dreamed of, speculated about for centuries, has actually taken place, and on a large, dramatic scale. Something has happened that has quite fundamentally changed the world.

The river of time has abruptly altered its course. You and I and all men now alive have actually seen this happen.

In the drama now unfolding there is no one — not a single one of us — who is a mere spectator, no one who is just listening in. There is no one who can turn a knob and tune himself out; no one who can just pick up and leave if he is bored, or horrified, or is more interested in his private affairs. You and I are all in this, we are all players, participants in that future chain of events that these epochal discoveries have set off.

The world looks the same. Radio City and Fifth Avenue and all the familiar sights of our world look the same. But they are not the same. They are not the same because of this culmination of new knowledge about Nature and matter and about force and destruction that we call "atomic energy."

Now I began by saying that it is of great importance what people in our country and elsewhere think about atomic energy.

But it is wrong to assume off-hand that this is self-evident. Actually, what difference does it make? What does it matter what the people think about this admittedly startling series of scientific discov-

eries about the fundamentals of life?

In the case of other great discoveries and events, it didn't make a great deal of difference, one way or the other. It is a notorious fact that on very few occasions did people understand the significance of great events at the time they occurred, nor for a long time thereafter, for that matter.

There is a classic story about this very thing. Some forty-odd years ago there were two young fellows, who ran a bicycle repair shop in Dayton, Ohio. Gadgets interested them. They read in the paper that a fellow by the name of Otto Lilienthal had broken his neck trying to fly by jumping off hills in a pair of wings. This gave the bicycle boys a hare-brained idea. They thought that if they mounted a motor on a pair of wings they could make the darned thing fly. They took their contraption to the sand dunes of the North Carolina coast. One day their sister in Dayton got a telegram reading: "First sustained flight today. 59 seconds. Very happy. Home by Christmas." Signed, Orville and Wilbur. She rushed to the local newspaper office with this great news. The next day in the Personals column there appeared the following headline:

POPULAR LOCAL BICYCLE MERCHANTS
EXPECTED HOME FOR HOLIDAYS

As I say, in the past other great changes have taken place and have not been well understood, most of them have not even been widely known, at the time. The voyage of

Columbus marked a sharp turn in events, affecting every human life from that time forward. But apparently Columbus himself did not understand what he had found. The discovery of fire, the invention of the wheel, of gunpowder, of steam as a source of energy, Faraday's discovery of electro-magnetic induction (or electricity, as we say), the discovery by Hertz of radio wave propagation — what people thought about these events at the time was mighty little, and what they thought was largely wrong.

Then why should we expect atomic energy to follow any different course? Why can't we go about our business and not fret about understanding atomic energy in its essentials, what with all the other things there are to understand — from just how a zipper works, or how to meet the crisis when it doesn't work, to the facts about the Marshall Plan? Isn't it enough if the scientists and engineers know what they are doing, and keep at it? As for the rest of mankind, well, suppose we do ignore the whole thing, or miss the point; suppose we do think that the real news is that those up-and-coming Wright boys will be home for Christmas, or that a new route to India has been found rather than a new world. If it didn't matter what people thought before, what is there about this particular discovery that makes it different?

The answer is found in the cir-

cumstances that set off this discovery and its effects on human life from any that have gone before.

THE first and most important circumstance is *time*. There was no long time interval between the *discovery* of the controlled release of the fantastic energies within the atom, and the large-scale *application* of that knowledge. The very first atomic bomb, though just the beginning, became almost overnight the most successful and potent weapon of all time. It was almost as if the Wright brothers in their first attempt at Kitty Hawk had flown smack across the Atlantic Ocean, or as if Marconi, instead of tinkering with a spark gap, started off the first crack out of the box with a 1948 television network complete with coaxial cable links.

The second circumstance that sets the event of atomic energy off from all previous new beginnings by man is this: the very first application of this knowledge was in the form of a weapon, but a weapon so utterly revolutionary and devastating that it shook all existing ideas of warfare and international relations. Even before it had been improved — and on top of a mesa in the mountains of New Mexico we are improving it — the very first product at once affected the lives of every being on the globe, and almost every institution to which men have somehow adjusted themselves and grown accustomed, including the idea of nations, and of balance of power, and of how wars

may be prevented, fought and begun.

There is a third circumstance about atomic energy that makes it different — not only in degree but I rather think in kind — among the great ideas and events of history. Atomic energy presents the two-sidedness of knowledge — good and evil — in the most dramatic way possible. Indeed it may be said to symbolize the two-sidedness of knowledge, and the choice men must make. It is difficult to recall any discovery or any idea in all of mankind's history in which the choice between the beneficial uses of knowledge and the destructive uses of the same knowledge is presented on such an heroic scale, and with such unmistakable clarity.

The development of our knowledge of this fundamental force for the improvement of the lot of men everywhere holds out promise of benefits that stir the imagination. And these are not merely remote hopes. This same knowledge, that has put a cloud of fear and uncertainty over the future, is the means of searching out some of life's most baffling secrets. In laboratories and hospitals quite near us today they are aiding dramatically in research that may uncover the cause of dread diseases and aid in their cure, and in the alleviation of human suffering. Benefits to the health of millions, increased food and better nutrition and vast new sources of energy — these we may look forward to with confidence as a consequence

of knowledge of the atom. And it was this knowledge that made the bomb.

ATOMIC energy, the new-found land of the atom, is beyond our ordinary human experience. There is little now to which we who are laymen can immediately relate this extraordinary phenomenon. But given time — a generation or so — gradually to get used to the idea, we would come to understand it, and make good sense of it.

But we were not given time.

We do not have time today. That is the crux of the matter.

You recall the circumstances. Radio broadcasts around the globe told mankind that a single bomb had destroyed an entire city. That single bomb had the power of 40 million pounds of TNT. There followed a most remarkable horror build-up. The effect — though this was not the purpose — was to make the mysterious and the horrible even more mysterious and even more horrible. We were to be frightened into our salvation. We were told that we must have world government and have it at once — within a definite and implacable time schedule of a few years — or we were goners. Our own special vulnerability to atomic warfare was told and re-told in a way that was correct but fearsome in the extreme. Maps of New York City were published showing in detail just what ghastly horrors would occur if an atomic bomb no more powerful than those already used

was dropped in the Hudson River or above the Roosevelt Hotel — accounts that were scientifically correct, but harrowing. We were reminded that these bombs need not be dropped by air armadas, that could be intercepted, but might be smuggled in, in parts, or easily concealed in the cargo of a tramp steamer moving innocently up the Hudson or into the Golden Gate. Such bombs, we were told, could poison the air and all plant life, and used in numbers render areas of the earth uninhabitable for decades.

Nothing quite like the effect of this upon the human mind has happened before, in the case of a new idea or discovery; certainly not on such a scale. And the most important factor has been TIME. There has simply not been an adequate or decent interval of time between the advent of the discovery and its application in a manner that affects most of our institutions.

Usually we've had a generation or even a century or two to adjust ourselves to the new and incomprehensible. This jump has been the biggest one we have ever been called upon to make in our thinking. For example, after fifty years of continuous development the destructive power of explosives was about doubled. Atomic energy multiplied the power of the highest explosive previously known not by two times but by 17,000,000 times — and this occurred virtually overnight. Similarly as to the release of energies for peaceful uses. In the atomic furnace at Oak Ridge the

energy we are releasing from the splitting of the fissionable atoms of a pound of uranium is greater than from the burning of a pound of coal, but greater by tens of millions of times.

These are all big jumps for the human mind to adjust to overnight.

And then to top all the difficulties, this new discovery comes at a time of bitterness and unhappiness in the world, and a state of international distrust the like of which has rarely existed before in time of peace.

WE SHALL need good steady judgment and cool heads in the coming years. Public thinking that is dominated by great fear, by phantasy, or by indifference to one of the central facts of our century provides a sorry foundation for the strains we may find it necessary to withstand, and the hard decisions and courses of action that may inhere in this extraordinary situation.

Anyone experienced in human affairs recognizes fear as a dangerous state of mind. To those who have given little thought to such matters, it might have seemed a good idea to scare the world into being good, or at least sensible. One result of intense fear may be panic, but another is likely to be phantasy. For men can stand great fear only so long. The sturdier ones look around for something specific they can do to overcome the cause of their fear. But most people unable long to endure fear, turn to un-

reality. Things that are disturbing just don't exist. Other more pleasant objects are substituted. People who insist upon talking about unpleasant facts, and after a while facts of any kind, are condemned or avoided.

If not fear, then what?

Our answer is: understanding, comprehension, knowledge.

Now this is a big order. But it is by no means an impossible one. Even the fact that there is not as much time for understanding to develop among people generally, even this time factor does not present impossible difficulties. For we have today some offsetting advantages.

Never before in man's whole history did we have at hand such magic to aid in the communication of ideas and of information: the radio and television; our newspapers and magazines, both now at a peak of quality, usefulness and reliability unequalled in our history; the motion pictures with their infinite potentialities; our amazing network of formal educational agencies — schools in every hamlet, colleges and universities by the thousands; the churches, and lay churchmen's organizations; the thousands of local societies and service clubs and forums and libraries in every town and city. What forces for stimulating understanding we have in such as these!

The radio is a medium so new, so pervasive, so potentially helpful in this crisis that it is nothing less than providential that it should be

ready at this hour when the world so desperately needs to shorten the time necessary for the dissemination of knowledge and understanding. Here is this great instrument, manned by a corps of talent capable not only of entertaining and stimulating but of finding ways as yet undiscovered — but discoverable — of inspiring man's interest and aiding his comprehension of knowledge that holds our common destiny.

The magnificent performance of radio during the war in promoting public understanding and individual action essential to the winning of that war shows clearly that the radio industry can do an heroic job in the public interest.

What is in people's minds today, about atomic energy is important. But what *may be in their minds next year* at this time, or two or three years hence, when tensions may have increased, when steady judgment may be essential, depends upon what we do in the meantime.

What may be in people's minds a year or two hence depends largely on leadership in each community; it depends upon how successful the press, the radio and education generally will be in inspiring people to think about atomic energy, and to appreciate the force of the facts about it.

As people become more and more convinced that they must know about this new critter, the atom, and what it holds for evil and for good, this is going to happen: people are going to become less patient

with explanations that informing the public is not part of the business of radio or the press or the periodicals. People will become particularly impatient as more and more of them come to understand the following fact — at least I believe it to be a fact: that the principal and perhaps the only solid hope for preventing the use of atomic energy for destruction on a scale that has not yet been disclosed is for peoples everywhere to come to understand the atomic world; and to understand thereby the opportunities that lie before us to put this knowledge to uses beneficent and humane.

A vacuum of knowledge about the atom will be filled; of that we may be sure. It may be filled by utter indifference. This would be tragic and disastrous for a people to whom some of our well-intentioned compatriots orate sweet nothings about peace being had if we wish for it hard enough. Or that vacuum may be filled by phantasy, by illusions. Neither panic nor phantasy provides the basis for a world of peace and security.

But whether the vacuum is filled

by indifference, or panic or wishful nonsense — the vacuum of public knowledge *will be filled*.

If people have knowledge and understanding they may or may not be happier as individuals.

But the country will be safer.

The peace of the world will be more secure.

We will be less likely to be taken in by sweet talk, or scared by shadows, or stumble — or be pushed — without knowing what we are doing, into some desperate finality.

An informed and understanding people will take the facts as they come, not reject them because some of them may not be pretty. We will, with familiarity with this subject, set out to live with the facts of life, begin to take them into our thinking, into our everyday vocabulary.

We will then begin to form common-sense judgments, not only as individuals, but as neighborhoods, as communities, as a people. There are no supermen, no all-wise to solve these problems for us. There is no substitute, no good substitute, for the common-sense judgment of a whole people.

“May God give you a coop full of little white chickens,
The friendship of a butcher,
A roof where rain does not enter
And a wife with eyes so lustrous they reflect the
happiness of the whole world.”

—Blessing by a native king in French West
Africa, from Bob Ripley’s “Believe It or
Not” program

“The Tragic Death of the Republic of Czechoslovakia”

The above title is the phrase used by President Truman in his address to Congress on March 17 to describe the Communist coup in Czechoslovakia. Following are broadcasts by four NBC commentators, selected from the history of recent events in Czechoslovakia as it was reported day by day over the network.

H. V. Kaltenborn, February 23:

POLITICAL freedom is being stamped out in the Republic of Czechoslovakia. The Communist-dominated Czech police have seized the headquarters of the National Socialist Party. They arrested several opposition political leaders. This is the same terror technique which brought Poland, Rumania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia under Communist control.

The Communist - controlled Interior Department makes the usual claims that the National Socialists were plotting an armed uprising, as though they had the slightest chance of using force against a government supported by the neighboring Soviet Union. Communist officials of the Interior Ministry have forbidden all foreign travel by Czechs. This is to prevent the escape of men like President Benes and members of the Masaryk family.

President Benes appealed to the country to remain calm until he had

a chance to try to maintain Parliamentary government. He still seeks a five-party coalition. The Communists evidently believe that this is the time to take over complete control. Normal activity in Prague is almost paralyzed. A session of the Constituent Assembly set for tomorrow has been postponed.

The Communist Chairman of the Cabinet of semi-autonomous Slovakia announced that representatives of the majority Slovak Democratic Party would be dismissed. He is evidently acting under instructions from Prague in assuring complete Communist control of Slovakia. The Communist police there have also taken control.

The Reds now control Radio Prague and took over radio stations and news agencies in Slovakia. President Benes must now resign or tolerate a Communist-dominated government. Twelve non-Communist ministers resigned last Friday.

PRESIDENT EDUARD BENES of Czechoslovakia has made a hard decision. He decided not to be a martyr, so he gave in to Red pressure and accepted a Communist government for his young democratic republic. Benes once said to me that a good cause is never lost until the last blow has been struck. Perhaps he still hopes now for a better tomorrow.

The Communist-controlled police in Czechoslovakia are already using Soviet methods. They fired on parading students today and wounded several. They beat them with rifle butts and clubs to prevent a demonstration of loyalty to President Benes. This was the only large-scale demonstration against the Communist coup. It has been well engineered so as to have a semblance of legality.

Communist Premier Gottwald has completed the Red seizure of control by forcing Benes to accept his new cabinet. Benes was told to approve or else a general strike would paralyze the nation. What more direct personal threats were used we do not know. Tonight the Communists are in control of every phase of Czechoslovak life. Press, radio, communications and all important government departments are under their power. Non-Marxist national government and municipal officials have been dismissed by the thousands.

President Benes cancelled the

speech he had intended to deliver to the nation this evening. This cancellation was ordered by the new Red government.

Communist-led workers, armed with newly issued rifles, started marching four abreast through the streets of the capital as evidence of Communist triumph and as a threat to democratic elements in the population. The Prague radio glorified the mighty ally, the Soviet Union, that made it possible for the Communists to take over the country without meeting armed resistance.

Communists took nine posts in the new cabinet, including the key portfolios of Interior, which means control of the police; Information, which means control of speech, radio and press; Finance, Justice and Education.

Jan Masaryk, non-party member of the last cabinet, retains his post as Foreign Minister. Masaryk is a practical politician. He confided long ago to his friends in this country that Czechoslovakia had to play along with Russia — there was nothing else to do. He probably thinks he can serve his people better by remaining in the cabinet than by getting out. In any case, he may have a chance to escape later if he plays along now. He can't last because he isn't a Communist.

The frontier has been closed to prevent anti-Communist patriots from leaving the country. The new Red cabinet has a few pro-Com-

munist members of non-Communist parties. They have been given minor posts for face-saving purposes. They are in the cabinet to give the seizure by force an aspect of legality.

The Czech crisis was caused by the resignation of the National Socialist, Slovak Democratic and People's Party cabinet ministers. These parties held four cabinet posts each. Their representatives resigned when the Communists insisted upon taking over complete control of the police, because they realized that meant the end of democratic government and this action by the Communists created the crisis — deliberately, of course.

President Benes' acceptance of complete Communist control has now ended the immediate crisis. President Benes did make an attempt to preserve political freedom for Czechoslovakia. He wrote a letter to Communist Premier Gottwald in which he said, "I insist on parliamentary democracy and parliamentary government." The Central Communist Party Committee replied by simply refusing to negotiate with the three non-Marxist parties whose members had resigned. It

used the routine Communist accusation that leaders of these parties were traitors and had conspired with foreign circles.

Communists don't use argument — they accuse, they abuse and then they call in the Communist police. It would be foolish to underestimate the importance of what has happened. Communism has won another important victory in Europe.

Every Hitler triumph made the next assault more easy. Every country conquered by Communism strengthens the entire area behind the iron curtain. Czechoslovakia's great Skoda arms plant will be a great asset to the Soviet Union's fighting forces. So is Czechoslovakia's well-developed industry.

Unless we use more vigorous methods to fortify and defend the remaining democratic areas on the Russian border, more of these areas will be lost to the democratic way of life. Within a few months of one another Hungary and Czechoslovakia have first been terrorized and then overwhelmed by the Red tide. We must do more than ask who will be next.

Merrill Mueller, from London, February 29:

I HAVE just returned from the land of sorrow and misery, the land of confusion and doubt — Czechoslovakia.

I went there to broadcast the story of the formation of the new Czech Communist dictatorship — for it is exactly that. But I got there too

late. I was the first radio correspondent to be refused broadcast facilities on the excuse of "technical difficulties." The technical difficulty is simple. The transmitters that foreign correspondents once used are now being devoted to Communist propaganda.

The Ministry of Information is cracking down hard on any truthful expressions outside Communist control.

Even Klement Gottwald, the Communist Prime Minister, is surprised at the speed of this dictatorial plan which was conceived months ago. It should have started yesterday with mass labor meetings — as a result of Czechoslovakian approval of the original Marshall Plan. But when that happened, a lieutenant of Foreign Minister Jan Masaryk told me, Gottwald was called to Moscow and given his orders to bring the country into the Russian orbit by Spring.

He was promised the full support of Yugoslav and Polish strong-arm squads and the outside pressure of the Russian Army. The timetable was advanced by the resignation of the twelve opposition ministers. But

the key was the Czech Army. It was not affected by the infiltration, but is now being purged.

A Czech Army officer I also knew in London told me that the Russians were ready to move five mechanized elements on the point of the Czech border opposite the American occupation zone of Germany. They did move the effectives of an Army Corps opposite Bratislava in the east.

Thus President Benes knew it would be hopeless massacre to call out the army and start a civil war the Russians would have interfered with. Benes is a dying man. He is dying of diabetes, and is believed to have tendered his resignation already, subject to the approval of Parliament at a timing suitable to the Communists.

It is all over now but the sweeping up.

John MacVane, March 10:

JAN MASARYK is dead — and the world has lost something of its civilization, something of its intelligence, by his death. Jan Masaryk was Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia before the Communists seized power. He remained Foreign Minister until today, when his body was found beneath the window of his third-story office in Prague.

Masaryk's influence was tremendous among the people of Czechoslovakia. He was the son of Thomas Masaryk, the George Washington of Czechoslovakia — founder and first president of the country — and

an American mother. Jan Masaryk was a product of East and West — completely at home in America or Britain as in his own country. "Young Jan Masaryk," he was called for most of his life — a reflection of the vast shadow cast by his father.

He was for long a man whom the Czechs laughed at and loved as he made his joking way through life — somehow doing important work well — somehow making his little country respected wherever he went. The Czechs knew as well as did most of those who looked beneath the surface, that underneath

his jokes and his light manner he concealed a completely single-minded devotion to the values of western civilization — the human rights that others talked more about but did less to uphold.

I have seen Jan Masaryk many times in these past years. He was a fine full-blooded man who liked the pleasures of life. He could compliment a pretty girl, tell a joke, rattle off a tune on the piano, or enjoy a good meal, so that you would think he had nothing more serious to do. But his keen intelligence was always active and he obtained as much for his country in international affairs as half a dozen lesser and more serious-appearing men might have done.

When the western powers left Czechoslovakia to her fate in the Munich surrender to Hitler, Jan Masaryk, then minister to London, showed his more serious side. He felt the blow that Britain and France, whom he loved, had dealt his country. He resigned and, taking a portrait of his father, left the embassy. During the war, he was with the exiled Czech government in London. From there he broadcast continually to the Czechs, and all Czechoslovakia listened.

When Winston Churchill indicated that the western allies regarded Czechoslovakia as being in the Russian sphere of influence, and the Czech government realized it would have to deal with the Russians without western support, Jan Masaryk went with President Benes

to accompany the Red Army into Czechoslovakia.

Since the war, as Czech Foreign Minister, he fought for the United Nations as Czechoslovakia's only hope; fought also for understanding between Russia and the west. Masaryk claimed there was no iron curtain around his country, claimed Czechoslovakia was upholding liberty.

Jan Masaryk hoped that his country, by freely adopting a pro-Russian policy, could keep a large measure of internal independence.

But when Russia made the Czech government recall its acceptance of the invitation to join the Marshall plan, Masaryk must have known that independence was finished. He went on trying, yet when I saw him in October and November of last year in New York, he was a sad man without much hope left. At the UN Assembly, he was absent from many sessions, ostensibly because of illness, and it was apparent that the Czech statements were coming rather from Moscow than from Masaryk.

People who have seen him within the last few weeks in Prague say that he was a completely disillusioned man. He criticized the American policy of not giving any real aid to Czech democrats, and claimed the United States and Britain were virtually handing the country to Russia on a plate by shutting the Czechs off from the west.

Yesterday Masaryk conferred for

the first time since the Communist putsch with President Benes. Afterward he went to his office and smoked many cigarettes while he brooded over his country's fate. One can imagine what might have been his decision—to show the world and the Czech people how things were in Czechoslovakia, and the final act.

The Communist government of Czechoslovakia made a feeble attempt to lay the blame for Masaryk's death on the west; said Masaryk had worried over malicious letters from former friends in Britain and America.

The new government hurriedly decreed a state funeral and ordered flags at half mast while the Czech people wept in the streets. There was no word from President Eduard Benes. Both Benes and Masaryk are reported to have been closely guarded by Communist police since the Communists seized power. The only reports on their statements that we have come from Communist sources. Benes himself is said to be a gravely ill man, and with the elimination of Masaryk the Communists can expect no figure in possible op-

position around whom opponents of the Communist minority might rally.

Even the Communist Minister of the Interior admitted at the parliament meeting today that a good man had left Czechoslovakia. One of the reasons for the Communist coup was that investigation had proved Communists sent a bomb to Masaryk last fall to try to kill him. The embarrassment of the investigation helped decide the Communists to make their attempt to seize power when they did.

In Washington, Secretary of State Marshall asserted that Czechoslovakia is under a reign of terror, not a due process of government by the people, and said the death of Masaryk indicates very plainly what is going on.

Even the Russians will have a hard time explaining the situation now, for Masaryk's death smashes entirely the careful myth that everybody behind the iron curtain is happy and the Czech government, as the Russians set it up, is a representative one. But a sincere, civilized and intelligent man had to die to prove how false the myth was.

Felix Morley, March 10:

THERE is no doubt that Jan Masaryk, the Foreign Minister of Czechoslovakia, committed suicide.

The name of Masaryk was the most valuable asset of the new Red regime in ancient Prague. That name was more valuable than the

great Skoda Armament Plant, where Soviet officers are now directing the manufacture of heavy artillery and tanks.

Thomas Garrigue Masaryk—the father of Jan—was also the father and founder of the Czechoslovak Republic. As long as the son held

office it could be pretended that Czechoslovakia is not a slave state. The ruthless men of the Kremlin could exploit the name Masaryk — as they exploit the word Democracy.

Gottwald and Zierlinger and Slansky — the Communists now in command in Prague — would never have murdered Jan Masaryk. He was too useful to them. And that is the thought which must have burned into the Foreign Minister's mind during those lonely hours of his last night on earth.

On his desk, this morning, they found the unfinished manuscript of a speech he was to have made tonight. The occasion — the first anniversary of the Polish-Czech Alliance. What could one say to dignify that shot-gun wedding of two Soviet provinces? So, brought to the test, Jan Masaryk plunged from his office window to the flagstones fifty feet below.

The medieval palace of the Bohemian kings towers above the Moldau River and the old town of Prague. Behind its walls are government offices — and the window from which Jan Masaryk leaped. Ten years ago I was in those offices, and listened to President Benes and Jan Masaryk. They spoke of their hopes for Czechoslovakia, their fear of Hitler.

Now Hitler has come — and gone. And a terror even more grim than that of the Nazis oppresses the Czernin Palace and the Charles Bridge and the beautiful old Theinkirche in Prague. It was to escape that terror that Jan Masaryk leaped from the old gray walls in the cold gray dawn this morning.

He was a weak man. Jan Masaryk once said of himself: "I merely chose my father well." But at the end, the son came clean.

Already the consequences of his gallant action are rolling up. Before the United Nations Council today, the chief Czech delegate charged Soviet Russia with aggression against his "terrorized" country. Throughout Czechoslovakia, the Red Police were alerted. In Italy, close to its crisis, men said "Masaryk has saved us."

The death of Jan Masaryk is one of those symbolic events which help to turn the tide of history. All the controls and censorship of Moscow cannot conceal its meaning. It was one lonely man against the mightiest tyranny of history. But in the crisis, the individual, for all his weakness, won.

Of Jan Masaryk, as of poor Charles the First of England, it may be said: "Nothing in his life did so become him as the leaving of it."

Farewell Address by President Benes — 1938

Ten years ago next fall, millions of listeners stayed close to their radios during the fateful days of the Munich pact, forerunner of World War II, by which Hitler got the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia. Eduard Benes resigned his office as President of the republic. A translation of his farewell address to his countrymen was broadcast from Prague over the NBC network, October 5, 1938. There is an essential resemblance between the situation in Czechoslovakia then and now. The words Benes spoke in 1938 sound as if they were being spoken in 1948. Here, in part, is what he said.

I HAVE just sent the Prime Minister a letter in which I resigned my office as President. I have reached my decision after conferences with political and constitutional circles and mainly from my own personal convictions.

I wish only briefly to state that the whole system of European equilibrium, built up after the war, has for some years continued to weaken and — in the last year in particular — has substantially changed. It changed to the disadvantage of ourselves and of our friends. In the last two years events have moved with unexpected quickness. It has changed all forces. Many developments here at home are characteristic of nationality struggles. We have sincerely tried to come to an understanding with other nationalities. We went to the extreme limits of possible concession, and influences from abroad and the whole course of events in Europe developed into an international conflict during which we had to defend our frontiers by military strength. We all did this with energy, with devotion and with such

great self-sacrifice that is hardly paralleled and is respected by everyone, friend and foe. It was clear that a European and a world catastrophe would develop from this situation.

Some day all will be judged by history and will be decided justly. I say only this, that we feel with pain the sacrifices which were so urgently demanded from us are tremendous and they are not just. The nation will never forget this even if they are born with the dignity of calmness and self-confidence arousing general admiration. In this can be seen the strength of our nation and the model greatness of its sons and daughters. During that time I defended, according to my duty and with all my devotion, the interests of our state and nation and of our previous position in Europe. Those people are wrong who fail to see correctly the hundreds and hundreds of our efforts and endeavors to preserve peace and to build up collaboration for peace, to create good neighborliness—who do not see our real goodwill to come to an understanding with all around

us. The forces against all this, however, were more powerful.

We will continue to remain democrats. We will continue to collaborate with the friends we have; at the same time it is necessary to find a way to enable our nation to develop quietly and uninterruptedly in the new environment and to adapt itself to the new conditions. This means: to retain old friends and to gain new friends from those around us, in peace and loyalty to all, as I always wished.

Our national culture will become more profound and stronger. We are strong enough and there are enough of us. We look forward to our national future with hope. The Czechs and the Slovaks — by their origin, by their education for generations — are anything but a nation which succumbs to catastrophe. We are a typically sober-minded nation, and, just as we did not grow proud in good fortune, so do we keep our heads in misfortune. Heroism, work and self-denial which the moment now demands of us is in no way less dignified than the heroism of the battlefield. The branches of our trees have been lopped but the roots of the nation are firmly intertwined in the country's heart. Let us go down to the roots. Let us concentrate therefore on native strength as we have done on so many occasions in the course of our history and once more, after a time, the ground will give forth new shoots. Let us keep it in mind that what remains to us — the kernel of our motherland after

all our sacrifices — is an inheritance which we must preserve for future generations, which remains a wealth of material value. Even now we are by no means among the smaller states, and we are a nation whose culture bears comparison with the culture of the largest nations of the world and which exceeds the culture of many.

Finally, I come to you all with an ardent, sincere appeal from the heart. The motherland of the Czechs and the Slovaks is really in danger, and it would be in greater danger in these moments if they failed to come together in the unity and the complete moral strength of people devoted to each other.

I turn also to all the other classes of the population — the farmers, the workers, the middle classes and the intelligentsia — to preserve peace and unity and devotion.

I end with an expression of true conviction, an expression of my fond faith in the material strength and the firmness of our nation — in its energy, enthusiasm, perseverance and above all in its faith in the ideals of humanity, in the ideals of liberty, right and justice for which it has often fought, for which it has often suffered and by which it has always planned once again.

I wish you all, I wish the Republic, I wish the nation an early return to better days that we may make live, grow and blossom anew a splendid offshoot of the human family and one of the noblest and finest of the European nations.

Miss Millay's stirring poetic drama, "The Murder of Lidice," was heard for the first time over the NBC network on October 9, 1942. The reason Hitler destroyed that peaceful Czechoslovakian village was summarized by the late Alexander Woollcott, at the opening of the program: "In the late spring of this year, in the ancient land that used to be called Bohemia, two men had the gumption to wipe out Adolf Hitler's monstrous deputy to their unhappy country. Because he failed to catch those two, Hitler struck instead at a homely nearby village on the suspicion that its people had sheltered them in their flight. He erased that village from the map, shooting every man from the priest to the cobbler, shipping every woman and child into captivity, obliterating every house." We repeat Miss Millay's invocation at the beginning of the play because, like Benes' farewell address, the lines might have been written in 1948.

YE martyred peoples of this maddened planet,
This earth, which like a moth about the sun
Today does whirl, as if it would itself
Its own destruction wreak, seeking to fall
In flame from out its orbit, and between
Its sister worlds be seen no more at all:
Human disaster on so vast a scale
The mind cannot conceive;
Country by country, town by town,
Village by village, the hurt mind reads down the painful page
In search of symbols — symbols of the proud, the fearless
Resistance of free man to the tyrannic rage,
The ruthless act, the edict too inhuman, almost, to believe.

Unflinching Freedom, sane and tearless,
Let now your never to be numbered fact-by-fact prodigious glories
Shine forth in one fierce light against this guilty age,
And guide our groping children, born in darkness; be their bright
And hopeful heritage.

The School Teacher and the American Way

HARVEY S. FIRESTONE, JR.

TODAY, subversive termites are boring persistently at the very foundation of our way of life. The years ahead call for the kind of confident and intelligent leadership which only enlightened and educated Americans can provide, if we are to preserve and protect the precepts of liberty and justice which we respect and cherish. Therefore we must rely heavily on our educators as the nation's first line of defense against the treacherous attacks of those who seek to undermine our American way.

Some of the countries across the seas which are now asking for help were great powers long before the United States became an independent nation. Yet, in the relatively short span of 171 years, we have overcome their head-start of centuries and have become the most powerful, the most prosperous and most successful nation on earth.

How did this happen? How was it possible for a poor, struggling

former colony, made up of people of many nationalities, of many races and of many creeds to surpass in so short a time the long-established power and prestige of older nations?

The answer is four-fold. First, Mother Nature endowed us with tremendous resources. Second, we had no powerful neighbors to threaten our security. Third, we developed a better system of government. And, fourth, we created an economic system which brought to us a better way of life.

We established a republican form of government and we laid down the rules for its operation in a living document called the Constitution. We laid the cornerstone of a new economic system based on competitive free enterprise, and we recorded the rules for its operation in the first ten Amendments to the Constitution, which we call the Bill of Rights. In effect, we made it possible for every person in the United States to go as far as his will and his skill permit, provided that he does not deprive any of his fellow men of this same right.

Compare this pattern for living with that of nations where other philosophies prevail. There are

Mr. Firestone gave this short talk recently during one of the "Voice of Firestone" programs, a weekly series now in its 20th year on the NBC network.

countries which call themselves democracies where a citizen may not own land or select his own job. He may not employ anyone to work for him. He may not be tried by a jury of his peers. He may not stay away from work without good and sufficient reasons. He does not have freedom of speech, freedom of religion or freedom of assembly, and his press and radio are censored by his government.

Certainly, if there is a better way of life than ours, mankind has not yet found it. And our children are entitled to know this fact. They deserve to know that other social systems can, at best, promise their people only in the far-distant future a standard of living which we Americans already enjoy today. And they have the right to know that to those who are willing to work, to think and to dare, the American system of competitive free enterprise brings rich rewards. That is their heritage.

To accomplish these objectives, we must have an adequate number

of thoroughly qualified teachers in our schools. In the last five years, thousands of men and women have left the teaching professions for better-paying jobs. And the number of young people who are studying to be teachers is alarmingly small. The principal victims of this critical situation are the twenty-six million children who are now in school and the two million who would be going to school if there were enough teachers.

It is a shameful paradox that those who contribute so much to the preservation of the American way of life share proportionately so little in its material benefits.

It is the duty of every American to make sure through the polls and through his personal influence that this wrong shall be righted.

It is the duty of every American to perpetuate our American heritage by giving our children the best schools, the best teachers and the best education in the world.

Public Enemy Number One — The Rat

"In the United States, there are probably more rats than people. Under favorable conditions, the progeny from one pair of rats could exceed 350 million in three years. The life span of a rat is about three years. The study of the rat's nervous system shows that three years of a rat life can be reckoned as ninety years for man. A rat of four is craftier than a man of ninety.

"Rats destroy 500 million dollars' worth of food and property in this country every year. The American rat population destroys as much food as 265,000 of our farmers could produce. Last year rats ate and wasted 200 million bushels of grain—almost half the entire quantity of grain we plan to send to hungry Europe this year."

—From a "Living, 1948" program

Crisis in Great Britain

LEON PEARSON

LONDON is very quiet this evening, almost deserted. Very quiet and very foggy. Everybody who can escape from this chilly, bomb-shattered place has gone off for the week-end. There's not much extravagance in these British week-ends — no drain on Britain's dollar resources. It's a third-class-railway-carriage sort of week-end. Here there is no gasoline for pleasure driving. The basic gas ration was eliminated last November, which means that nobody drives except with special permission. Not only is gasoline rationed in England, but most car owners don't even get any ration. This is the safest place in the world for pedestrians. The only way you can get hurt on a highway is to be run over by a bicycle.

It's a question of foreign exchange, or the dollar crisis. There are no oil wells in England. All petroleum products must be imported. Some supplies come from British-owned oil fields in the Middle East, paid for in pounds, but if more were imported it would in-

volve payment in foreign exchange, which Britain cannot afford.

It's the same for a score of products. Most hotels in London provide no soap for the guests. If you want to take a bath, you have to bring your own soap. There is a shortage of bread, a shortage of tobacco, a shortage of clothing, a shortage of eggs, and a shortage of American movies. Things not produced in England are short because the government won't allocate the foreign exchange to pay for them. And things which are produced in England are also short, because the government wants them sold abroad, to create foreign exchange. The British automobile industry has just broken an all-time export record. In the month of January, Britain sold abroad 16,000 motor vehicles — a figure that surpasses anything ever done in the fifty years' history of the industry. This is the way the country is feeding itself; and if Britain doesn't collapse in the coming weeks before the Marshall aid, it will be because of this export effort. Officials calculate that the January export of motor cars brought a revenue of ten million dollars a week in foreign exchange, or enough to buy the rations of 6,250,000 people.

The British economy is on the verge of collapse — yes — but not

NBC's roving European reporter, Leon Pearson, speaking from London, made this report over the network on March 6, 1948.

the British industrial effort. Can this effort within the country save it from bankruptcy? Apparently not. The gap is growing wider every day between the foreign exchange available and the foreign exchange required. Britain is travelling down a one-way street leading to bankruptcy. It doesn't matter how much valiant human effort is put into the struggle. The British simply cannot win. Not now — not until her industrial machine is rebuilt, and adjustments are made to offset the loss of overseas investments. I mean that she cannot win, standing alone. Britain is like a man with a crutch which is about to be taken away. The American loan of four billion dollars, negotiated less than two years ago, is about to be exhausted. The last instalment has been drawn.

Here in London, the man in the street is not aware of the crisis. He feels the pinch in his daily life, but a full awareness of the frightful consequences of national bankruptcy is felt only in the government offices of Whitehall and Downing Street. I don't mean the terrible truth is being concealed, but only that it is too vast to be comprehended. Actually, the government will try to tell the stark truth in an economic survey to be published next Tuesday. This will make it clear that, without aid from the Marshall Plan, Britain is sunk. Her meagre gold reserves will be spent, she will be unable to buy what she needs abroad, unable to maintain proper food rations, un-

able to support the value of the pound.

In some quarters there is a sense of humiliation that Britain must stand like a beggar before a country which was once an overseas colony of the great Empire. But in other quarters, there is the confident feeling that Britain, supported from the West, can be the bulwark America needs for defense against the East. Britain stands undefended today, in an economic sense, but if Britain and Europe are not revived, the United States will stand undefended tomorrow, in a military sense. Thus, while some British are saying "God help us, our last prop has been taken away," others are saying, "America must provide a temporary crutch for Britain, whose world-wide might, revived and strengthened, would put the issue of freedom beyond a doubt."

There's an interesting difference of opinion between the two great British tycoons of journalism — Northcliffe and Beaverbrook. The Northcliffe press is all out for American aid. In fact, that phrase I have just quoted about America helping Britain, so Britain can save the world, is from the Northcliffe "Daily Mail." Beaverbrook, on the other hand, is all for declining American aid, with thanks. In fact, it's a bit embarrassing to the British government to have this high-powered publisher, formerly a cabinet member, referring to the Marshall aid as "another dollop of charity from the American people," and saying the Marshall plan would

bring Britain "an enormous quantity of American tobacco and dried eggs" which will soon be exhausted, and exhorting the British people to stand up proudly and "cast off the tow rope." This is a very clever appeal. Beaverbrook is pandering to the people. He knows the people are restive under the yoke of American loans. They would like to think they can pull themselves up by their own bootstraps. But the Government thinks otherwise.

Incidentally, good-will toward America is not bought, by dollar credits. I have felt this in both Britain and France. The more we lend, the greater the debt, and a debtor never loves his creditor. Not that there's any lack of gratitude, but there's a slight feeling of resentment that America "stands astride the narrow world like a Colossus." Everything America has is superior, whether movies or automobiles or the atom bomb. American entertainment is flooding the British theatres. And even this causes resentment. There was a cartoon in one of the London evening papers this week, showing a street scene, with a background of billboards announcing Mae West, Danny Kaye, "Oklahoma," "Annie Get Your Gun," "Hellzapoppin'" and "Joe Louis Coming Shortly." On the sidewalk is an old-time British comedian, thrown out of work by this American invasion, begging a shilling from a passing American. This is Britain's yellowest journalism, fortunately not typical. It's a sort of cross-current in

the great stream of good-will. Most Britons have a higher notion of America, and of their need for American aid.

THE bonds are tightening, actually. The bonds between America and Britain, and the bonds among the Western European countries. I've never seen anything like it. I have lived and worked in Europe since the end of the war, and I've never seen such a rapid change in the political climate. A short time ago the British were still clinging to the hope of compromise with Russia. Time and again I have heard Bevin say, "We must be patient; these things cannot be solved in a day." But today, British patience has been swept away. The policy of compromise is now labelled a Munich policy, and responsible people are talking openly of the possibility of war with Russia. Beaverbrook, who went to Russia during the war, and who has clung to a pro-Russian policy since the war, has now changed his editorial colors completely. There is only one paper in England which is not anti-Soviet — the Communist "Daily Worker." The normally unperturbed British Civil Servant is now looking over his shoulder to see if the man at the next desk mightn't be a Communist. There's a witch-hunt going on, in real American style, and the "Daily Express" this morning has a front-page story about a young lady who is secretary to a cabinet minister, and who is suspected of

being a Communist. There are lists of suspects in the columns of the press, and stories of the Socialist Party planning to purge its ranks of the dangerous left.

All this has come in the last ten days, since the Communist coup in Czechoslovakia. The witch-hunt is a hysterical sort of thing — as regrettable here as it is in the United States. But there is nothing regrettable about the new firmness which has come in the German discussions, ended today — the speed with which the five European states are reaching agreement in Brussels on a Western Union — the speed with which the sixteen Marshall Plan countries are preparing a permanent organization, so they can pull together economically. Things are really moving in Western Europe. It may be unfortunate that Europe has to be divided, but the division is a fact, and the latest evidence of it — the coup in Czechoslovakia — has tightened the cords of cooperation in the West.

Incidentally, a British journalist told me this week he thought an equestrian statue of Molotov should be erected in Trafalgar Square, in recognition of his contribution to Western European unity.

This week, for the first time, responsible officials named Russia as the potential enemy in the next war. This came out in the course of debates on the defense appropriations. W. J. Brown, a Member of Parliament from Rugby, not only named Russia, but said that in any struggle involving Russia, the United States

and Great Britain — “which God forbid” — “there would be no more concentrated single target than the British Isles.” Then he suggested that Britain should disperse its industrial production to overseas bases. This sort of talk would have outraged and scandalized the House of Commons a few weeks ago. This does not mean that Britain thinks war inevitable. But it does mean Britain is in a mood for calling a spade a spade, and for taking measures of defense.

As a matter of fact, the best minds in the Foreign Office, making a cool estimate of a very hot situation, think war can be avoided. I went to the Foreign Office only two days ago, and had a private talk with one of the highest officials. I asked him his opinion on war and peace, and he gave me this answer: “I am not an optimist — in fact, I am often called a cynic — but it is my conviction that we now have the possibility not only of avoiding war but even of turning the tide of Communism.” Then he mentioned four factors making for peace: first, the terrible destruction in Russia from the last war; second, the possibility that some of the Balkan states would revolt if Russia tried to drag them into war; third, the rapid consolidation of Western Europe to resist Russia; and finally, the fact that — and these were his words — “Russia probably does not have the atom bomb.” But such assurances are not officially stated, and the British people are asking themselves, with a deep sigh,

if they have got to face still another war. "We've got troubles enough at 'ome. Have we got to have more trouble abroad?"

They would like to believe that the tufts of heather now being sold on the street would really bring good-luck. ("A little, pale-faced

woman stopped me on Berkeley Square today, and sold me "a bit of white heather for good luck.") The British are hoping for something — whether it be the Marshall Plan or a tuft of heather — to change their luck and bring them out of the slough of despond.

PERT KELTON: He can't afford a stable, so he's got the horse sleeping with us.

MILTON BERLE: The horse sleeps in your bed?

KELTON: It's awful. My husband's up until four in the morning getting the horse ready for bed.

BERLE: It takes that long?

KELTON: He takes his shoes off.

— MILTON BERLE SHOW

The Money Motive in Mexico

"One could not resign an official position in Mexico or Latin America, giving as the reason that he does not get the salary he needs. He had better say, in that case, that he or his wife is terribly ill. In this problem of the money motive, my experience as a publisher is that I have always found it embarrassing to ask authors whether they will be satisfied with the fee I can offer them. Instead, I discuss their qualifications for the job or the honor they will confer on my publishing house if they accept my invitation. This queer attitude, I think, has to be traced back to the old Spanish gentleman, who was concerned with everything but money. Another explanation is that we have not sufficient means really to pay for the work we ask to be done. The National University of Mexico, for instance, pays its professors two hundred dollars a year. Naturally, the university cannot but appeal only to the readiness of the professor to serve for the honor and satisfaction of doing so.

"Latin Americans may envy wealth, but they have hardly any admiration for it. Their respect goes to the man of learning, whether he is a scientist or a magician."

— DANIEL COSIO VILLEGAS, *Mexican economist, editor and publisher, speaking on a University of Chicago Round Table program*

The Death of Gandhi

On January 24, 1948, six days before Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was assassinated, Dr. Walter W. Van Kirk devoted most of his weekly broadcast, "Religion in the News," to a discussion of Gandhi's achievements and moral power. Dr. Van Kirk concluded his remarks with these prophetic words:

I don't suppose we of the West will ever fully understand this little man who, even before he has tasted of death, is already revered as a saint by the four hundred million people who inhabit this vast sub-continent. So accustomed are we to the pressures of political and military power, that we cannot comprehend why it is, or how it is, that a defenseless man, whose only weapon is that of "soul force," can bring a mighty empire to its knees and effect a cessation of the blood-letting of civil strife. So enamored are we of the wheels of industry, so preoccupied with the gadgets of our inventive ingenuity, so content with the comforts of our material treasure, that it is difficult for us to fathom the depth of the spiritual potential of which this man of India is the symbol.

It may be that Gandhi will be characterized by some persons as more than a little peculiar, a hopeless idealist, a fanatic, in a world where toughness is the language of diplomacy and where brass hats and gold braid are the adornments

of greatness. But that's what they said about Amos and Hosea and Jesus of Nazareth. We would do well, therefore, to see Gandhi in the perspective of history. His name will be remembered and his heritage of "soul force" will be cherished in the centuries ahead long after the celebrities of today's headlines have been forgotten.

Standing ten feet from Gandhi when the fatal bullets were fired was Robert Stimpson of the British Broadcasting Corporation. Listeners to NBC's nightly "News of the World" program on January 30 heard the voice of Mr. Stimpson speaking from Delhi, India. Actually, he had spoken just eight minutes earlier, and a transcription of major portions of his statement had been swiftly prepared for the network news program.

At three minutes past five, Indian time, Mr. Gandhi came out of Berla House, and because he was a little late for evening prayers he stepped out more briskly than at any time since his fast. He was wearing his usual white loin cloth and a pair of sandals. He'd thrown a shawl around his chest—it was getting chilly. His arms were resting lightly on the shoulders of two companions and he was smiling.

There were only two or three hundred people in the garden and they pressed eagerly towards him as he climbed the steps leading to the small, raised lawn where the congregation was gathered. As he got to the top of the steps and approached the crowd he took his arms from the shoulders of his friends and waved his hands in salutation. He was still smiling.

A thick-set man — in his thirties, I should say — and dressed in khaki, was in the forefront of the crowd. He moved a step towards Mr. Gandhi, took out a revolver and fired several shots at almost point-blank range. It didn't sound like a revolver but like a Chinese cracker that a child might have set off. Mr. Gandhi fell. For a few seconds no one could believe what had happened. Everyone seemed dazed and numb, and then a young American who had come for the prayers rushed forward to seize the shoulders of the man in the khaki coat. That broke the spell. There was a terrible cry of anguish, a wailing lament from the crowd. Half a dozen people stooped to lift Mr. Gandhi. Others hurled themselves on the attacker. I saw flailing arms beating on his head and shoulders and soon there was blood on his face. He was overpowered and taken away.

Two days later, on February 1, the University of Chicago Round Table program was dedicated to the martyred Indian leader. Following are excerpts

from the tributes to Gandhi which were heard on that program:

MILTON MAYER, AUTHOR, AND MEMBER OF THE GREAT BOOKS FOUNDATION: Halfway around the world last Friday, an old man was murdered, and the whole world was shaken.

This old man had no possessions; he had no position. His life was worth nothing to him; and his death did not bother him. But the world was shaken because, without an army, a navy, an air force, without a stick or a stone, without power or patronage, he pulled down the pillars of an empire and brought freedom to a subcontinent of four hundred million unarmed people.

To most white men he was a comical, certainly an unrealistic, figure. Alongside the strong men of our age — the Roosevelts, Churchills, and Stalins — he was unimpressive in his shawl and his loincloth. But the meek were once told that they would inherit the earth; and now men everywhere are wondering whether this meekest of men may not have been the strongest man of our age. Millions of people followed him without benefit or promise of benefit. They followed him to prison and to prayer and to freedom.

We are not concerned here with the immediate political consequences of his death. Instead, we ask: What was his secret? Where was his strength? Why with his empty hands was he more terrible than an army with banners?

M. ASAF ALI, AMBASSADOR OF INDIA TO THE UNITED STATES: After seventy-eight years of the richest life on this planet, Mahatma Gandhi has passed into the eternal realm of the spirit. The fundamentals of his belief and tirelessly active life derived from the eternal urge of the noblest aspirations of the human race; and by that token he belonged to the world and not merely to the country of his birth. The spirit of his faith and the example of his life will girdle the earth in ever widening circles as time recedes from the present. What he preached and practiced is to be found in the essence of every great religion. He insisted on good and pure means for the attainment of good and pure ends, for he held that unlike means could not produce the right ends.

He was by general acknowledgment the touchstone of human conscience, and he lived, ceaselessly worked, and died vindicating the deepest and noblest urge of human nature. Nobility and purity of thought, word, and deed expressed in truth, love, and peace, which he summed up in the golden gospel of nonviolence, constituted his criterion of all human conduct.

SIR MOHAMMED ZAFRULLAH KHAN, FOREIGN MINISTER OF PAKISTAN: Gandhi's death marks the end of an era, certainly for India. It is difficult to forecast what turn India's destiny may now take.

As the world is well aware, Gandhi's great fight was fought for

the liberation of India from the political domination of Britain. To carry on this fight, he devised a whole armory of weapons of an entirely new pattern; and, though even some of his closest followers were doubtful of their efficacy and were, on occasion, somewhat impatient with his philosophy, Gandhi lived to achieve a complete vindication of his methods insofar as the winning of India's political freedom was concerned.

World events no doubt contributed largely toward this consummation, and due credit must also be accorded to Britain for the greatest act of faith and courage in the political history of the world. But it will be universally recognized that it was given to Gandhi, within the brief space of one generation, to revive, among the teeming millions of India, a deep sense of dignity and self-respect and a passionate longing for liberty.

N. GOPALASWAMI AYYANGAR, INDIA'S REPRESENTATIVE AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE U.N.: Once in many centuries history produces a man whose life and ideas are as a beacon for generations to come. Gandhi belongs to this select company.

Born in India, a Hindu, Gandhi belongs to all mankind. He was a great Christian without being baptized one; a great Moslem without professing Islam; a great Buddhist without being an avowed follower of the Buddha. In all religions— whoever its founder, whatever its

history — he saw the same moral values and the same great spiritual truths. It is this recognition which underlies what is sometimes spoken of as his tolerance. "Tolerance" is perhaps the wrong word. It suggests an attitude of patronization. His true attitude was rather one of respect for every religion — a respect born out of the understanding that religion all over the world inculcates the same moral values and enjoins essentially the same code of right conduct. To have rediscovered and revived these eternal principles and ideals and to have turned mankind's attention to them as pointing the only way out of the confusion and the conflicts of our modern world — here, I think, lies the unique greatness of the historic achievement of Gandhi's life and teaching.

DR. JOHN HAYNES HOLMES OF THE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF NEW YORK: I am thinking of the panorama of my own life — of what I have seen in a ministry of more than forty years. Through all these years I have lived in a society which has placed its one hope of security in an ultimate reliance upon physical force. It has sought personal security in vengeance and the law, and national security in vengeance and the sword. Steadily, through all these years, I have seen

the world grow not secure but ever more insecure as weapons have grown more powerful and war has succeeded war, until today we behold the atomic bomb and the imminence of doom. What has force done to us but bring us face to face with fear, even unto death?

At the same time, through these many years, I have seen another phenomenon — a queer little brown man, clad only in a loincloth, called by a contemptuous Englishman, "a half-naked fakir," proclaiming the gospel of nonviolence and love. In the utter simplicity of this little man it was hard to discern the secret of his power — hard, that is, for eyes which looked without but not for eyes which saw within. The Mahatma's secret was the spirit. He believed that spirit is a reality. He trusted it as more potent than the sword. He lived in it as love in the midst of hate, as forgiveness in the midst of vengeance, as good in the midst of evil.

The spirit which is God within the soul of man — this can overcome the world. Here was Gandhi's secret, which he called "truth." In his own faith and practice he proved it to be truth; and we must accept it if we would live. It is the atom bomb or Gandhi — choose ye this day which ye will serve!

The United States of Indonesia

QUEEN WILHELMINA

TO those who were our allies in the war I want to address a few words.

I want you to know that the peoples of our Commonwealth have reached a memorable goal.

A free federated Indonesia is about to take her place among the democratic nations of the world.

Seven years ago when Holland was under Nazi oppression I announced to my countrymen the intention to establish a new relationship between the Netherlands and the other parts of our Commonwealth.

A year later, in the midst of the war, an outline of the new relationship was traced.

Today this partnership is a living reality rapidly taking final shape: The United States of Indonesia forming a Union with the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Surinam and the Antilles.

The Queen of the Netherlands made this statement of national policy from the Hague on February 3, 1948. She was addressing the people of the United States and Great Britain, and spoke in English. Her speech was short-waved to New York and broadcast exclusively in this country over the NBC network.

In the darkest period of the war the great President, my unforgettable friend, together with Britain's valiant champion for freedom, found a permanent expression for our common purpose which reached even beyond the immediate aim of each country's independence.

We were to make the world free from fear and free from want, to make it a place where man would be free to worship God in his own way and free to speak his mind.

It makes me happy that men in Indonesia and here have found the wisdom and the skill to create forms of government that will guarantee to many people all the freedoms and the rights for which you our allies and we fought together.

They have still a long way to go.

The common man is far from being free from fear and want in those parts of Indonesia where terrorists are still committing manslaughter, pillage and arson.

Indonesians and Dutch have to fight this common foe in full co-operation.

There, as in other places of the world, the powers of anarchy and disorder that try to prevent the peoples from recovering must be overcome.

I am confident that these obstacles will be overcome because the Indonesian peoples are deter-

mined to take up the responsibilities and obligations of democratic self-government as you and we understand it.

We know that in our days no relationship between nations can be stable unless it is based on mutual consent and mutual effort.

Therefore we encourage them and we help them in their endeavor.

Colonialism is dead.

We do not disown our past and the proud achievements of by-gone days.

But a nation must be strong enough to make a new beginning.

We shall be strong enough.

What the peoples of the world need now is a new way of living together in close partnership based on equality and mutual trust.

It may well be that the solution being reached in Indonesia will set a pattern for solutions in wider parts of Asia.

A group of peoples of no less than 70,000,000 has come to the side of democracy as we understand it.

This is a great event.

Blessed with many riches of the earth a United States of Indonesia can take a great share in the common fight against famine and need.

In free association with the Netherlands, Surinam and the Antilles a sovereign Indonesia will be able to carry on her economic development which already before the war was unprecedented in Asia.

Providing Europe and America with her goods and raw materials, Indonesia will be able to make a real contribution to the tremendous efforts now being asked from the American people under the Marshall Plan.

Already the country is emerging from the confusion caused by the Japanese occupation.

Passions and distrust are calming down.

The noble words of freedom and patriotism resume their true meaning as Indonesian nationalists unite to build a federation throughout the far-flung group of islands.

By this common effort based on the same principles as the Atlantic Charter a new Indonesia is arising.

Both peoples, Dutch and Indonesians, look forward to the day when The United States of Indonesia, sponsored by the Netherlands, will take their rightful place among the United Nations.

Such a day will be a hard-won milestone on man's long road to liberty.

EDDIE: The Hall of Justice in Washington is an impressive building. As you enter there's a large sign on the wall engraved with these words, "Justice and Honesty Shall Prevail." And underneath is another sign.

HARRY: What does it say?

EDDIE: "Watch Your Hat and Coat!"

— EDDIE CANTOR SHOW

What You Should Know About Heart Disease

A University of Chicago Round Table Discussion

DR. BAY: Over one-half million people in 1946 died of diseases of the heart and blood vessels. This is a larger number than died of the next five causes of death combined. By 1970, twenty-two short years away, I estimate that more than three million of our people will be incapacitated by these troubles at any one time in a way which will require nursing care in the home or in an institution. This is just about two million six hundred thousand more than the number of institution beds available for all sicknesses in the United States today.

You can see that heart disease is unquestionably the nation's num-

ber-one public health problem. I would like to stress that word "public." Heart disease occurs in all our families — rich and poor, urban and rural, colored and white. We all have a stake in doing something about it.

Dr. Gibson, you are an expert in diseases of children. Tell us about heart diseases in children.

DR. GIBSON: There are two important forms of heart diseases in children. One of these is congenital heart disease; the other is rheumatic fever.

As its name implies, congenital heart disease is present at birth. By this I mean that something in the course of prenatal development goes wrong, so that the structure of the heart or of the great vessels leaving the heart is faulty. In some instances this disease causes no handicap, and the patient lives out a full life. In other instances the circulation is so seriously impaired that the child may be compelled to lead a very quiet life, altogether unable to enter into the play and other activities of normal children.

DR. BAY: Nearly one thousand cases, however, of congenital heart disease — some of them "blue babies" — who formerly were doomed, have,

The four eminent physicians who were heard in this discussion over the NBC network, February 15, 1948, are principal officers of the Chicago Heart Association. Dr. Emmet B. Bay is professor of medicine at University of Chicago. Dr. Stanley Gibson is chief of staff at Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago. Dr. George K. Fenn is senior attending physician at St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago. Dr. Louis N. Katz is director of cardiovascular research at Michael Reese Hospital, Chicago.

in the past few years, been benefited by an operation. Tell us about these.

DR. GIBSON: One of the most spectacular advances in surgery in recent years has been in the correction of defects involving the heart and the great vessels which carry the blood from the heart. The blue-baby operation is the most important one and has attracted the greatest public interest. This brilliant operation, conceived and carried out by Dr. Tausig and Dr. Blalock, has transformed many of these patients from a state of complete or partial helplessness to that of relatively normal children who are able to lead active lives.

DR. BAY: Far more important than congenital heart disease is the chief disabler and killer of children, rheumatic fever, and its aftermath, rheumatic heart disease. What is the story on this disease?

DR. GIBSON: Rheumatic fever causes about one-third of the total number of cases of heart disease. Each year in this country almost two hundred thousand people die from rheumatic fever. In New York City, in the ten-year period from 1930 to 1940, there were six hundred and ninety-three deaths from infantile paralysis; but in the single year of 1938 there were in New York City over eleven hundred deaths from rheumatic fever alone. In other words, the mortality from rheumatic fever in a single year was almost double that due to infantile paralysis in a whole decade. I wonder how many realize that, even in children between the ages of five and fifteen years, more chil-

dren die from rheumatic fever than from any other disease.

DR. BAY: We do not know the exact cause of rheumatic fever, but we do know a lot about its predisposing factors. What are they?

DR. GIBSON: Yes, we do know a good deal about the circumstances under which rheumatic fever arises. We know that climate is an important factor. It is in the temperate zones, where the weather is changeable, where there is cold and rain and snow and slush, that rheumatic fever is most frequent. We know that poor living conditions have much to do with its occurrence. We know that heredity is a factor. We know that certain streptococcic infections, particularly a sore throat and tonsilitis, almost always precede, by a few weeks, the actual onset of rheumatic fever. However, we do not know why, out of the many children who contract streptococcic infections, only certain ones will come down with rheumatic fever.

DR. BAY: As a pediatrician, what do you tell parents to look out for as the early signs of rheumatic fever?

DR. GIBSON: First of all, parents should know that rheumatic heart disease is a treacherous enemy. In the great majority of cases there is no pain or any other symptom of distress pointing to the heart, even when the heart is seriously involved. There are, however, two important manifestations of rheumatic fever which can be recognized. Parents should know that joint pains, usually involving several joints in rapid

succession, may mean the onslaught of a rheumatic attack. Parents should know that another sign of rheumatic fever is chorea, or St. Vitus' dance. I hope that every parent listening to this broadcast will remember that either fleeting pains in the joints or the nervous twitchings which portray the presence of chorea are danger signals which mean that the heart is in danger or, indeed, may be already involved.

If rheumatic fever can be detected at its onset and if the proper measures are instituted, the involvement of the heart may be greatly lessened or, in some instances, avoided altogether. This is where the parents' responsibility lies. Parents should know that the child must be at complete bed rest during the period of active infection. Under such circumstances the heart has less work to do, and less serious damage will result.

One of the unfortunate features of rheumatic fever is its tendency to recur; and it is the recurrence of the infection which we fear. How can it be avoided? Improving the environment of the patient is important. Giving him an adequate and properly balanced diet is important. I have pointed out that an infection with a streptococcus germ usually precedes rheumatic fever. Therefore, if we can prevent the streptococcic infection, rheumatic fever is unlikely to develop.

Fortunately, we do have drugs, particularly the sulfa drugs and penicillin, which are effective against a

streptococcus. Well-controlled experiments have shown that the use of these drugs, given in proper dosage over long periods of time, has decreased very materially recurrent attacks of rheumatic fever. It should be emphasized, however, that these drugs are worthless during the period of active infection. Moreover, they must be given under medical supervision. They are not the final answer to the problem, but they give promise of being effective weapons until we find a better way.

DR. BAY: Everybody knows about heart murmurs. What is your experience with heart murmurs in children?

DR. GIBSON: Parents should know that heart murmurs are extremely frequent in children. In fact, a faint murmur can be heard in more than 50 per cent of healthy children. I cannot emphasize too strongly that the presence of a heart murmur does not necessarily mean that the child has heart disease. The significance of a heart murmur must be determined by its quality, its timing, its location, and by the other signs which may accompany it.

DR. BAY: The bulk of heart disease occurs in adults. Dr. Fenn, who is interested in this group, will tell us about them.

DR. FENN: The most important forms of heart disease in adults are high blood pressure, hardening of the arteries, which includes diseases of the arteries nourishing the heart muscles, the coronary arteries, and,

of course, rheumatic heart disease.

There was an altogether unexpected amount of rheumatic fever in the Army and Navy during the last war, but relatively little heart disease resulted. The first attack of rheumatic fever may come on in adult life and frequently does; but serious heart disease is less likely to result in the person whose initial attack is postponed until then. It is the person who grows up from childhood with rheumatic heart disease with whom we are most concerned. They may acquire high blood pressure or coronary artery disease just like anyone else, and we do not like that. Therefore, the control of rheumatic fever and the prevention of rheumatic heart disease are of vital importance to us who deal only with results.

DR. BAY: The outlook for patients with high blood pressure and coronary thrombosis has improved greatly in my professional lifetime. Tell us about some of these changes.

DR. FENN: Very definite advances have been made in the management of certain types of heart disease. A generation ago, certain disorders of the thyroid gland often produced serious, sometimes fatal, heart disease. These thyroid disorders have yielded, first, to surgery; and now they are being attacked with new chemical preparations and with radioactive drugs with great promise of success. Thyroid heart disease is almost a thing of the past.

The same is true of syphilitic heart disease. New methods of at-

tack on syphilis have brought about a great diminution in the case of heart disease from this source.

Ten years ago, subacute bacterial endocarditis, which is an infection of the valves of the heart, was an almost uniformly fatal disease. The sulfa drugs made a dent in this mortality, and now penicillin has brought the disease under very good control. These are positive advances which we now take for granted, but I suspect the situation with regard to them looked very discouraging to our grandparents.

The progress in the elimination of high blood pressure and coronary artery disease has been less spectacular but nonetheless real. These, strictly speaking, are not primarily diseases of the heart at all. They are fundamentally diseases of blood vessels from which the heart ultimately suffers.

DR. BAY: I remember one of my best teachers saying, in 1922, that a man with certain symptoms as a result of high blood pressure could not live more than a year and a half. I have a patient who is now working full time, who had those symptoms in 1941, six and a half years ago.

DR. FENN: High blood pressure is a sign of a disease in which the elevation of the blood pressure is one of the early symptoms and a symptom with which most people are acquainted. I believe that there is a great deal of misinformation abroad concerning blood pressure. It is not a fixed thing in any person, and it varies, normally, through a rather

wide range. It may be fifteen or more points higher or lower today than it was yesterday and still be normal on both occasions. Also, the old, popular formula that the normal blood pressure is one hundred plus your age should be placed with other fairy stories where it properly belongs.

The regulation of the blood pressure is quite a complex matter, and, when something happens to upset the regulating mechanism, the result is likely to be an elevation of blood pressure beyond the normal limit. In some instances we are able to discover what it is which interferes with the blood-pressure regulation. Certain diseases of the kidney or urinary tract may be found. Tumors of the adrenal gland or tumors of the pituitary gland may be responsible. If the fundamental cause is discovered, it is very often possible to overcome the high blood pressure. In the majority of cases, however, the fundamental cause remains obscure, and this problem is the object of a lot of research and investigation.

While the fundamental cause remains obscure, we treat the symptoms as they arise. Attempts are made to lower the blood pressure when we think lowering may prevent some of the unpleasant things which go along with this disease. Many, many people, however, live out their life-expectancy, together with their high blood pressure, and with little if any discomfort. Drugs will lower the blood pressure in

some instances. Some of the newer drugs which are still in the experimental stage seem to exert a profound effect upon the blood pressure. It may be that this answer will come through the use of some chemical agent. Diet has swung both ways. Used widely many years ago, it then came to be almost completely disregarded. In the last few years, diet has again come on the stage. These new diets, such as the lower salt diet, must be still considered experimental. Everyone agrees, however, that overweight must be abolished.

Surgery on the nerves of the blood vessels is effective in properly selected cases of high blood pressure and in other diseases of the blood vessels of the arms and legs.

Lastly, there must be mental discipline, mental tranquility, and a realization of the fact that one's life habits must often be greatly altered. The patient should learn to relax, should adopt avocations; and, when he drinks, he should drink like a gentleman.

Coronary artery disease is no less important. This disease attacks the same group as high blood pressure disease. This disorder has to do with an interference of the blood supply to the heart. Perhaps the most serious phase of this disorder is the occurrence of coronary thrombosis, where the blood supply to a portion of the heart is suddenly cut off by plugging one of the coronary arteries. This accident frequently occurs without warning. Again, the

fundamental cause is obscure. Ancestry may play a part; diet may be involved; the tempo at which we live has been blamed. But none of these has been definitely proved. This is one of the problems which remains to be solved.

Twenty years ago coronary thrombosis was a highly fatal accident. Today the deaths from this accident are materially less, percentage-wise. Twenty years ago the patient with coronary thrombosis looked forward to a life of invalidism if he survived his attack. Today, most of those persons are continuing to carry on their activities, and many of them are living out their life-expectancies, and more. You might be surprised to know how many of your friends had experienced a coronary thrombosis. More intelligent treatment and management allow them to go on much as they did before the attack.

Lastly, there has been progress in the treatment of heart failure. All persons with heart disease, you know, do not have heart failure. Heart failure exists when the heart is no longer able to overcome the obstacles of heart disease and no longer able to do its work efficiently. Years ago, heart failure signified that the patient was finished, as Dr. Bay just remarked. Today, owing to more efficient methods of treatment and management, patients recover from heart failure and go about their business for years.

Yes, progress has been made, but not enough.

DR. BAY: Since many people have misconceptions about irregularities of the heartbeat, will you say something about these?

DR. FENN: Irregularity of the heartbeat is not itself a sign of heart disease. Irregularity is a perfectly normal thing in the majority of instances. If one does get such action, one should consult his physician to determine whether or not the irregularity has any significance.

DR. KATZ: We have been talking about people with organic disease. Dr. Bay, you have had a long interest in people who have had over-anxiety about their hearts and were thus incapacitated.

DR. BAY: Yes, the problem of anxiety, with or without heart disease, is a real one. Dr. Gibson has told us of unimportant heart murmurs. They may be unimportant as to the structure and function of the heart, but they frequently modify the lives of patients all out of proportion to the actual damage which exists.

Many adults are overanxious about a heart murmur, but many of these with a functional or accidental murmur, are better bets for living out a normal life-span than those who are without the murmurs. Yet, the knowledge that they have a heart murmur is incapacitating to many of them.

The solution to this problem can be found only by an examination, by a good doctor, and then believing and accepting his word on what the situation is. In this same vein I should like to be very frank in say-

ing that I think that patients who desire so-called "health examinations" should be very careful to pick doctors who are not pessimists and alarmists.

Still in the spirit of self-criticism, I wish to pose a question to Dr. Katz. You have had a lot of experience in clinical electrocardiography as well as in research. Before we talk about research, I should like to ask you what you think about the use of laboratory tests in arriving at a diagnosis. I am under the impression that the electrocardiogram is frequently abused. Is that right?

DR. KATZ: Yes, it is. Laboratory

tools are aids. Their interpretation is subjective, just as is the interpretation of clinical findings on percussion and on listening to the heart. There is no substitute for the modern, well-trained physician. Too many lay people, and too many doctors, unfortunately, expect to make a diagnosis by using tools. They somehow think that, by using a tool and by running it through a statistical machine, the diagnosis and the treatment will come out. That is wrong! Tools are devices to help, but that is all they do. It is the physician who must make the final decision.

AUNT AGGIE: If you put your hand in one coat pocket and found 50 cents, and then you put your hand in the other coat pocket and found 75 cents, what would you have?

JUDY CANOVA: I'd have somebody else's coat.

— JUDY CANOVA SHOW

GRACIE: Last night I had a real nightmare. I dreamt I was walking down Hollywood Boulevard with no clothes on — all I was wearing was a hat. Oh, was I embarrassed!

GEORGE: I'll bet you were.

GRACIE: Sure, it was last year's hat.

— BURNS AND ALLEN SHOW

EVE ARDEN: That's the new style, Jack — in fact, they're going to wear them even longer.

JACK CARSON: Oh, that's awful. Eve, do you know what happens to girls who wear skirts down to their ankles?

EVE: What happens?

JACK: Nothing!

— SEALTEST VILLAGE STORE

King Solomon and the Bee

Pauline Morris (from a story by Chaim Nachman Bialik)

This cheerful little play about the wise king was broadcast by Station WNBC, New York, in the program series entitled "World Over Playhouse," presented each week in cooperation with the Jewish Education Committee of New York. Norton Belth, program editor. Copyright 1948 by Morton Wishengrad.

(Sound of a bee buzzing and into:)

(MUSIC: Register and down)

SOLOIST: *(Singing)* There was a little honey bee
Went searching for a rose;
But he got lost upon the way
And found King Solomon's nose.
He searched it hard for pollen
And harder still for plunder,
And finding none got very mad
And made a fearful blunder.
(Music out)

(Sound of bee up . . . hold ominously . . . and . . .)

(MUSIC: A sting)

SOLOMON: Ouch! Ouch! Oh, my nose!

CHAMBERLAIN: King Solomon, what's the matter?

SOLOMON: My nose! I've been stung.

CHAMBERLAIN: I didn't do it, your majesty.

SOLOMON: You fool! Get that bee. I want him dead or alive.

CHAMBERLAIN: Men, capture that bee. He's stung the royal nose.

(Voices up and ad lib in background)

SOLOMON: Oh, my nose! *(continuing ad libs)* Oh, my nose! I've been stabbed.

CHAMBERLAIN: Don't let that bee get away. Capture that bee. Surround him. Quick, men, shut the windows, surround him.

SOLOMON: My nose, my poor nose. Oh, my nose. *(Pause . . . All voices out)* You fools, you let him get away.
(MUSIC: Bridge)

CHAMBERLAIN: Your majesty, would you like another cold application?

SOLOMON: No. It's gotten so a king can't even take a nap without being stabbed in the back.

CHAMBERLAIN: (*Coughs*) Hardly in the back, your majesty.

SOLOMON: Oh, be still. (*Pause*) How does it look, Chamberlain?

CHAMBERLAIN: Prominent. (*Pause*) How does it feel?

SOLOMON: It's on fire. It feels as though a thousand splinters of glass are cutting me all at once. Chamberlain, bring me a mirror.

CHAMBERLAIN: I wouldn't advise you to look at it, your majesty.

SOLOMON: Is it that bad, Chamberlain?

CHAMBERLAIN: Has your majesty even seen a cucumber?

SOLOMON: I have.

CHAMBERLAIN: A rather large cucumber?

SOLOMON: I have.

CHAMBERLAIN: An enormous cucumber?

SOLOMON: I have.

CHAMBERLAIN: An enormous, swollen, *red* cucumber?

SOLOMON: Impossible.

CHAMBERLAIN: Bring King Solomon the royal mirror.

SOLOMON: (*Groaning*) Never mind. (*Pause*) Chamberlain do you realize that the Queen of Sheba will be here next week? How will I look to her?

CHAMBERLAIN: Like a vegetable, your majesty.

SOLOMON: That settles it. I want that bee.

CHAMBERLAIN: But, I don't think we can . . .

SOLOMON: I want that bee.

CHAMBERLAIN: But your majesty was asleep. How can we even be sure it was a bee?

SOLOMON: I am Solomon the King. (*Pause*) All creatures, listen to me. A wrong has been done. And wrong must be punished. Let the criminal who stabbed me appear. (*Pause*) Very well I order every bee, every mosquito, every wasp, every horse-fly, and every gnat in my garden to appear before me instantly.

(*MUSIC: Buzzing and accompany*)

SOLOIST: So sixteen thousand honey bees
 Buzzed at the King's command.
 And sixteen trillion wasps and gnats
 The royal palace jammed.
 They sizzed and fizzed and whistled,
 They hissed, they fussed, they shrilled,
 But when the King held up his hand
 Every single sound was stilled. (*Music out*)

SOLOMON: Silence!

SOLOIST: (*Speaking*) Not a wing stirred. Not a buzz was heard.

SOLOMON: You insects! Have I ever harmed you? No. Who has always seen that you were not molested? I, King Solomon. Who has protected you? I, King Solomon. And how have you repaid me? How?

CHAMBERLAIN: (*Quietly*) He means, look at his nose.

SOLOMON: Who is the culprit?

CHAMBERLAIN: He means, who did it?

SOLOMON: Who dared to do this wicked thing to the King?

CHAMBERLAIN: (*Marvelling*) A red cucumber.
(*Pause*)

SOLOMON: Well, who is the criminal? Come forward. (*Pause*) If you know who did it, come forward.
(*Fade in a buzzing of a single bee and cut*)

SOLOMON: Little bee, do you know who I am?

BEE: You are King Solomon, the wisest man in all the world.

SOLOMON: Do you know who stung me? Tell me, and you will be rewarded . . . and the guilty one punished.

BEE: I am the guilty one.

SOLOMON: Aha, you admit it.

BEE: Aha, I do.

SOLOMON: Careful, little bee. I can have you done away with like that. What is your name?

BEE: Benjamin Bee.

SOLOMON: Why did you sting my nose?

BEE: I thought it was a flower. I made a mistake . . . as everybody knows.

SOLOMON: What have you to say before I have you executed?

BEE: I didn't do it purposely. I am but a poor little bee whose days are numbered and I am very ignorant.

SOLOMON: That's quite true.

BEE: I haven't learned to tell the difference between the shape of a nose and the shape of a flower. There was your nose . . . and there was me . . . I couldn't resist, your majesty.

SOLOMON: (*Chuckles*) That's very obvious.

CHAMBERLAIN: Exactly what the Queen of Sheba will say.
(*They laugh and cut as*)

BEE: (*Laughs uproariously*) Very obvious. What a joke, what a joke! (*Laughs louder and stops suddenly as he realizes that he laughs alone*) Heh.

SOLOMON: Benjamin Bee, it is a fortunate thing for you that I am a merciful king.

BEE: Thank you, king. Maybe someday I'll do you a favor when you need help.

SOLOMON: You? *You* will do *me* a favor? Chamberlain, the presumption of this creature! The impertinence of this drone, this drudge, this pollen taster, this honey maker, this, this, this insufferable insect.

BEE: I think I'd better go now. (*Moving off*) Goodbye, king. Don't forget. I'll help you out some day.
(*A burst of laughter from the king*)

CHAMBERLAIN: Your majesty, I wouldn't laugh so hard.

SOLOMON: That little Benjamin Bee, the nerve of him. *He* will do me a favor. (*Laughs harder*)

CHAMBERLAIN: Your majesty, when you laugh so hard the blood rushes to your nose.
(*Laughter instantly stops*)

CHAMBERLAIN: That's much better. I'll go to the kitchen and have a little talk with your seventy-seven pastry cooks. After all, we should have a little something ready when the Queen of Sheba arrives.
(*MUSIC: Accompanying*)

SOLOIST: So sixteen thousand honey bees
Escaped King Solomon's ire,
And sixteen trillion wasps and gnats
No longer did perspire.
They sizzed and fizzed and whistled,
They shrilled, they fussed, they hissed,
And when the Queen of Sheba came,
They saw King Solomon kissed. (*Music Out*)

QUEEN: I am pleased to see you looking so well, my dear King Solomon. You have a remarkable complexion.

CHAMBERLAIN: (*Dryly*) Hasn't he?

QUEEN: O King, you are like unto the flush in the eastern sky at break of day. (*She giggles*)

SOLOMON: I see, I have become a jest throughout the land.

QUEEN: Ah, you are offended. You're just a silly man, after all, and I thought you were the wisest man in the world.

CHAMBERLAIN: But he is the wisest. God has made him ruler over all the beasts of the field and the birds of the air.

QUEEN: I doubt it. King Solomon, if you are as wise as the Chamberlain says you are, answer these riddles.

CHAMBERLAIN: Go ahead, then, ask him. Ask him anything you want. What are you waiting for?

QUEEN: King Solomon, who is it who is, yet who has neither been born nor has died?

SOLOMON: It is the Lord, our God.

QUEEN: Hm. That's right. Answer this one. The dead lived, the grave moved, and the dead prayed. What was that?

SOLOMON: When Jonah was swallowed by the whale, the whale was Jonah's grave. And Jonah lived in the whale, and the whale which was his grave, moved, and Jonah prayed.

CHAMBERLAIN: (*Laughing*) Ah, my Queen of Sheba, you bite your lip.

QUEEN: He will not answer this next riddle. I will stake my entire kingdom on it.

CHAMBERLAIN: Are you sure my dear Queen?

QUEEN: King Solomon will not answer this riddle.

CHAMBERLAIN: We shall see.

QUEEN: Chamberlain, my servants are in the garden outside. They have with them ten thousand roses of the Land of Sheba. Ask them to carry the flowers in.

CHAMBERLAIN: Bring in the ten thousand roses of the Land of Sheba.
(*MUSIC: Bridge*)

QUEEN: King Solomon, here is your riddle. I stake my entire kingdom that you cannot answer it.

SOLOMON: What is your riddle, Queen of Sheba?

QUEEN: Among these ten thousand flowers only one flower is real. Every other flower is artificial. Every other flower has been so cunningly made by human hands and so cunningly perfumed, that no living man — not even you, King Solomon — can tell which is the true rose. (*Pause*)

CHAMBERLAIN: (*Uncertainly*) A . . . a . . . rather difficult riddle, don't you think?

SOLOMON: Hush, Chamberlain, I'm thinking.
(*Pause*)

CHAMBERLAIN: Shall I go around and smell them?

SOLOMON: That would be foolish. The Queen of Sheba has had them all perfumed.
(*Pause*)

QUEEN: Take all the time you want, King Solomon. But it won't do you any good.

CHAMBERLAIN: (*After a pause and close to mike*) I'm afraid that this time she . . .

SOLOMON: Quiet, don't disturb me.
(*Pause*)

QUEEN: (*Sarcastically*) So you are the wisest man in all the world. But you cannot find the single flower that is real.

SOLOMON: (*Close to mike*) Chamberlain.

CHAMBERLAIN: (*Close to mike*) Yes, King Solomon? Do we give up?

SOLOMON: Nonsense. Go to the window and open it.

CHAMBERLAIN: But that's silly. How can an open window . . .

SOLOMON: Be still. Do as I say . . . open the window.

QUEEN: (*Normal voice*) I haven't any idea what you two are whispering about, but it will do you no good. You cannot tell the real flower.

(*Sound of window opening*)
 (*Fade in a buzzing of a bee*)
 (*Bring the sound up louder*)

QUEEN: King Solomon, what in the world are you smiling about?

SOLOMON: I am praising God.

QUEEN: What in the world for?

SOLOMON: Because God has made me wise, wise beyond all other men, wise enough to learn from fools or even from those who are less than fools.

QUEEN: Whatever are you talking about?
 (*Buzzing up and cut*)

SOLOMON: (*Whispering*) Thank you, Benjamin Bee.

BEE: (*Whispering*) I told you I'd return the favor, didn't I?

SOLOMON: Yes, and I made fun of you. (*Normal voice*) Queen, the thirty-fourth flower in the twenty-sixth row . . . that is the real flower.

(*Pause*)

QUEEN: (*Angrily*) I've been tricked. You had no business knowing that. I won't give you my kingdom.

SOLOMON: Keep your kingdom. Keep it all, keep all your riches. For today I learned something better than all the riches in all the world.

QUEEN: You did? What was that?

SOLOMON: Today, my dear Queen of Sheba, I learned not to despise any creature on God's earth. A man can learn from the wise, a man can learn from fools, a man can learn from the beasts in the field and birds in the air. And even from the tiny honey bee. Queen, is there anything more valuable than knowing this?

(*MUSIC: Up and accompany*)

SOLOIST:

There was a little honey bee
Went searching for a flower
That Sheba's Queen had hidden
For Solomon's testing hour.
Past every rose made to deceive,
Past ten thousand flowers he flew
And buzzed around a single rose,
And Solomon knew it was true.

(MUSIC)

Our Exacting Correspondents

(FINE ARTS DIVISION)

"My friend I saw in a magazine where I could
get some actual Photo of ladies Posed in the
Nude can you send me some of this type I want
clear Beautiful Pictures real pretty send C.O.D."

— Letter from an NBC listener in Quebeck, Tennessee

Subscribe to the NBC digest!

This magazine is published in January, April, July and October, and costs subscribers only 50 cents a year (4 issues) or \$1.00 for two years (8 issues). Simply fill out the form below and mail it with your remittance to:

NBC Digest, Room 732, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York (20) N. Y.

Here is my subscription to the NBC Digest for ☐ 1 year, 50 cents; or ☐ 2 years, \$1.00. Remittance is enclosed. (Please send check or money order. Do not send postage stamps.)

Your Name.....

Your Address.....

AMOS 'N' ANDY



A whole generation of radio listeners was born and grew up after Amos (Freeman Gosden, seated) 'n' Andy (Charles Correll) had become household names in America. Their Tuesday night show on the NBC network has many millions of devoted followers. With them in this picture is a guest on their program, Pat Washington.

TOSCANINI AND TELEVISION



Arturo Toscanini on March 20, 1948 demonstrated that he is even more than the world's greatest conductor — he is a superb television artist. This photograph shows him exactly as he was seen by the television camera and by the huge eastern television audience, conducting the NBC Symphony in its first televised concert.

NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY

A SERVICE OF RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA